

The Cullman Tribune

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AREAS FROST THEN SUNNY

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WSCC

– SPORTS –

Wallace State adding Women's Flag Football in Fall 2025

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Alabama State Department of Education releases schools report cards

Cullman City Schools system scores straight A's; Cullman County Schools system earns A

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The results of the 2023-2024 Alabama State Department of Education Report Card have been released, and both Cullman City Schools and Cullman County Schools issued press releases addressing their grades.

Cullman City Schools

Cullman City Schools remains among the top districts in the state — with three schools posting their highest scores ever.

Cullman City Schools once again reported all A's across every school, with the system as a whole achieving its highest grade since the introduction of state report cards. Systemwide, Cullman City Schools reported an overall grade of 95, up from 94 in 2023.

East Elementary School earned a grade of 99, its highest ever, up from 98 in 2023. West Elementary School earned a grade of 96, its highest ever, up from 94 in 2023. Cullman City Primary School earned a grade of 96, its highest ever, up from 95 the prior year. Cullman Middle School moved from a 96 to a 95 this year, and Cullman High School was level at 91 year-to-year.

"We are very fortunate to have the teachers we have in our school system," Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said. "It's also worth noting that in the same academic year in which we had the highest grades, we also had the highest special education rate at 13.79% and our highest poverty rate at 40.36%. Our educators do not make excuses and produce unbelievable results."

In the system's 2023 Pillars of Commitment, Kallhoff noted the school board made it clear that providing students with support, continuous improvement and training for teachers, and emphasizing rigorous curriculum and assessments was a key districtwide priority.

"I truly believe our state report card performance is a result of these three commitments," he said.

The following criteria are taken into account when calculating the state report cards: Academ- » PAGE 6

Ushering in the Christmas season



SHERRY BROWN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The City of Cullman on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2024, welcomed the Christmas season with the lighting of the Christmas pyramid and the grand opening of this year's Christkindlmarkt at Depot Park. The annual Christkindlmarkt Parade and tree lighting were planned for Friday night, Nov. 22. Get more details at www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Attendees explore the shops at Cullman Christkindlmarkt on Thursday.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Attendees enjoy a train ride at Christkindlmarkt on Thursday.



SHERRY BROWN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Christmas pyramid

2 dead following multivehicle crash; man charged with manslaughter

» PAGE 2

Good Hope ag students make, sell Christmas trees



FACEBOOK/GOOD HOPE HIGH SCHOOL

The Good Hope High School Ag Department crafted and sold decorative Christmas trees built by the students recently - with the bigger versions selling out in only two hours. » PAGE 8

'Show them they're loved and remembered during the holiday season'

» PAGE 8

2nd annual Falkville Christmas Parade set for Dec. 9

» PAGE 3

Vinemont hosting senior Christmas event Dec. 16

» PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 22

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 22, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Nov. 18

- trespassing; harassment; CR 223
- violation of restraining order; CR 907
- theft; CR 728
- theft; Colony Rd.
- theft; CR 597
- harassment; CR 591
- theft; CR 310
- theft; CR 944
- theft; Hwy. 278W

Nov. 19

- burglary; CR 895
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 747
- trespassing; CR 1103
- harassment; CR 1118
- theft; CR 1223
- unlawful breaking and entering vehicle; stalking; Logan St. SW
- criminal mischief; CR 1178
- harassment; trespassing; CR 771
- harassing communications; CR 316

Nov. 20

- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69N
- violation of restraining order; CR 223
- harassment; CR 38
- harassment; trespassing; CR 223

ARRESTS

Nov. 18-20

Cheatham, Nathan R.; 32
- assault-child abuse-simple-family (3 counts)
- theft-miscellaneous, $1500-2500

Coleman, Michael A.; 34
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument

Farr, Larry D.; 64
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked, or canceled
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Ford, David L.; 46
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Gann, Karanda L.; 34
- FTA – reckless driving

Hinkle, Joseph F.; 45
- unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle
- stalking-2nd degree

Hooper, Steven D.; 43
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (5 counts)
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)

Hyatt, Tabitha B.; 45
- sell/distribute – methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Lopez, Felipe T.; 35
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Mcalpine, Nicholas D.; 41
- counterfeiting
- forged instrument

McCay, Hannah M.; 25
- GJ – unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle
- GJ – theft-miscellaneous, $1500-2500
- GJ – theft-miscellaneous, $500-less than $1500 (2 counts)

Overton, Shayla D.; 29
- assault-harassment
- criminal trespass

Parker, Kenneth W.; 52
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Phillips, Elizabeth A.; 26
- GJ – burglary-residence-force
- GJ – theft-miscellaneous, $500-less than $1500

Pickel, Jason S.; 41
- PROBATION VIOLATION – auto theft

Reeves Jr., James T.; 33
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Smith, Carron D.; 62
- DIVERSION VIOLATION – forgery-checks
- DIVERSION VIOLATION – possessing forged instrument
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument

Smith, Roger D.; 42
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-parent

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Nov. 19
- theft of property-3rd degree; person; phone; $700; Olive St. SW

Nov. 20
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; 2nd Ave. NW
- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; miscellaneous; $177; Olive St. SW

Nov. 21
- theft of property-1st degree; person; jewelry; Meadowbrook Pkwy SE
- leaving the scene of an accident; person; damage to '10 Lexus; $500; Main Ave. NW
- aggravated theft by deception; person; cash; $1,000
- aggravated theft by deception; Chipotle Mexican Grill; cash; $1,193

ARRESTS

Nov. 20-21

Acton, Christopher J.; 22
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Burks, Kenneth A.; 23
- theft of property-4th degree

Bauer, Paci C.; 20
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Bailey, Bridget L.; 29
- GJ - chemical endangerment of child

Fitzgerald II, Alan R.; 44
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree
- FTA - possession of drug paraphernalia (3 counts)
- FTA - public intoxication
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree (4 counts)
- FTA - assault with bodily fluids
- FTA - attempt to elude
- FTA - false information to law enforcement
- FTA - resisting arrest

Dixon, Kayci T.; 31
- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

Heflin, Debra J.; 66
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Conley Jr., Felix T.; 75
- manslaughter (2 counts)

Richter, Shellie M.; 45
- FTA – expired tag
- FTA – insurance violation

Allaire Jr., Richard L.; 65
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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Vinemont (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The Town of South Vinemont is hosting a free senior citizen Christmas fellowship event on Monday, Dec. 16, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center. Local seniors are welcome to attend and enjoy lunch and activities.

Town Clerk Kayecea Sasser said former Councilwoman Charlotte Cosper brought the idea for senior events to the mayor and council back in late 2022.

"The council and mayor agreed to start it on the third Monday of each month starting January 2023," Sasser said.

"Every month since then, we have steadily increased having our seniors each month. We average around 50-60 seniors each month."

At last year's December event, she said, they hosted a cookie bake-off, but this year they are excited to announce the pie/cake competition.

"The winner of the competition gets a $25 Walmart gift card," Sasser said.

"We also have seniors bring desserts each month for the events.

"We have received donations from local businesses that help support and provide games, prizes and the meals for the seniors. We have had an amazing outpouring of support from the community."

The local Girl Scout troop does Christmas cards for the seniors as well, and a local daycare comes to sing Christmas carols and will be making and bringing ornaments.

"We are looking for additional judges if you like pie/cake and have availability on your schedule," Sasser said.

"We post information on our Facebook page or you can contact town hall directly at 256-737-5411.

"Bonnie Goodwin, Nina Justice and Ross Campbell are council members and can help with setting up and cleaning up the event."

The senior events take place at the Vinemont Community Center, located at 88 Ridgeway St.

Crash (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Two people are dead and another has been charged with reckless manslaughter following a multivehicle crash in north Cullman Wednesday night, Nov. 20.

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick on Thursday morning identified the victims as Billy Herbert Wallace, 49, of Cullman, and Jennifer Dawn Sharp Hearld, 49, of Cullman.

Kilpatrick said Hearld died at the scene of the crash at the intersection of U.S. Highway 31 and Alabama Highway 157. He said Wallace died at a local hospital.

There were a total of four vehicles involved according to Kilpatrick.

According to Cullman Police Chief Joey Duncan, the crash happened at approximately 8:29 p.m.

"A 2019 Ford Escape, driven by Felix Thomas Conley, struck a 2004 Harley Davidson Electra Glide, driven by Billy Herbert Wallace, and struck two other vehicles before coming to final rest just before the intersection," Duncan said. "Mr. Wallace and the passenger on the motorcycle, Jennifer Dawn Sharp Hearld, were pronounced deceased by Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick. Ms. Hearld was pronounced deceased at the scene. Mr. Wallace was pronounced deceased later after being taken to Cullman Regional Medical Center."

Duncan said that, due to the severity of the crash, the Cullman Police Traffic Homicide Unit arrived on the scene and took over the investigation.

"Following the deaths of Mr. Wallace and Ms. Hearld, Mr. Conley was arrested and charged with two counts of reckless manslaughter," he said. "He was then taken to the Cullman County Detention Center. The investigation remains ongoing by the Cullman Police Traffic Homicide Unit."

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LEGALS

Legal Notice

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

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 PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
HELEN MARIE DAHLKE, * CASE NO. PC 2024 - 404
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Frances Ann Dahlke and Betty Louise Dahlke as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of HELEN MARIE DAHLKE, deceased, on the 20th day of November, 2024, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Frances Ann Dahlke
Petitioner

Betty Louise Dahlke
Petitioner

Douglas E. Harris
Attorney for Petitioners

DOUGLAS E. HARRIS, ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC
95 County Road 1682
Cullman, AL 35058
Telephone: (256) 565-7138

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Probate Judge

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

Falkville (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

FALKVILLE, Ala. — The second annual Falkville Christmas Parade will take place Monday, Dec. 9, beginning at 7 p.m.

President of the Christmas Parade committee and community member Robert Summerford said he has been a part of Christmas parades for many years and always wanted one in his hometown.

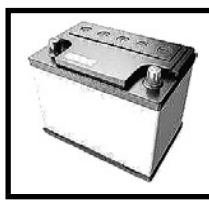
"I love our little town and enjoy community events like this, so I took the idea to the mayor and he told me if I wanted to head it up then do it," he said. "I never dreamed it would be as big as it was — last year was such a wonderful event. I was very overwhelmed with joy about how the town and folks even from surrounding areas came out, supported us and entered in it. We had 126 entries last year."

Summerford said he's thankful for the support from community volunteers last year.

"We had many helping people park and line others up, others that took the time and built wonderful floats and the people that helped organize the event," Summerford said. "It was so much bigger than any of us ever thought it would be. It truly was a staple event for our town that I think a lot of people have wanted for a long time. It was very heartwarming to see the joy on the faces of everyone and bring the town together to celebrate the Christmas holiday. I hope it continues to grow and get better every year."

The cost is $35 per float entry, $10 for other vehicle entries, antique cars, golf carts, etc. Horses and walking groups (including bands and sports teams) can enter for free. Entries are due by Dec. 2. To register, visit www.falkville.org/event-applications/page/christmas-parade-registration.

This year's parade theme is "Small Town Christmas." The parade will take place Monday, Dec. 9, beginning at 7 p.m. at South Park. For more details, visit https://tinyurl.com/FalkvilleCP.



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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. 24 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 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.

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.

21st Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display
• Through Dec. 29, 5-9 p.m. at Sportsman Lake Park, 1544 Sportsman Lake Road NW. Admission is a cash donation of $10 cash per vehicle. In addition to over one million lights, there will also be a Christmas train, horse and carriage rides, snow machine, photo booth, hot chocolate and even a few visits from Santa himself.

Specific dates of operation:
• Nov. 23-24, 29-30
• Dec. 1, 4-8, 11-15, 18-22
• Drive-through only Dec. 26-29

Cullman Christkindlmarkt
• Depot Park, 107 Arnold St. NW, Cullman, AL 35055
• Through 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.

"The Nutcracker" Presented by Ballet South
Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 23-24. Shows are Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are $17 for adults, $12 for children 13 and younger and $5 for Wallace State students and can be purchased at https://tinyurl.com/NutcrackerBalletSouth2024. Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre at Wallace State, 801 Main St. SW, Hanceville.

Fairview Lions Club Turkey Shoot
Thursday, Nov. 28, Thanksgiving Day, at 7 a.m. at Clinton Barbee Park (old pool field) on Wesley Avenue in Fairview. Shots are $5 each for turkeys, hams and bacon. We will also be drawing for an Old Henry Golden Boy 22 and a case to be given away that day. Tickets are available at the shoot with six tickets for $5 or $1 each. Bring your favorite gun as shells are provided. You do not have to be present to win. All proceeds go to the Lions Club project fund. For more information, contact Kita at 256-385-8805 or William at 256-385-5596.

6th Annual Christmas at the Grotto
Begins Nov. 29. 5-9 p.m. at the Ave Maria Grotto, 1600 St. Bernard Dr. SE. Christmas lights return to the Grotto! Come and experience the beauty of Br. Joseph's work at night surrounded by lights and music! We have expanded this unique holiday experience to include a Christmas Tunnel at entry and also Santa's Workshop! We've also have added more dates! The weekend of Dec. 13-14 will feature even more to see and do, including musical performances, food trucks, kids' rides and horse-drawn wagon rides around St. Bernard's campus. Plus, Santa Claus will be here! Refreshments will be available every night.

Dates:
• Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1
• Dec. 5-7
• Dec. 12
• Dec. 13-14 (food trucks, kids' rides, wagon rides, Santa Claus)
• Dec. 19-23
• Dec. 26-28

Admission:
• Adults - $10
• Seniors - $8
• Military/Veterans/First responders - $7
• Teens (13-17) - $8
• Children (5-12) - $7
• Children 4 and younger - free
• Wagon rides on Dec. 13-14 - $5
• Kids' rides on Dec. 13,-14 - $3

4th Annual Berlin Volunteer Fire Department Pancakes with Santa
Saturday, Dec. 7, 7-10 a.m. at the Berlin Community Center, 3309 U.S. Highway 278. Breakfast plates and meetings with Santa are for donation only; however, the department encourages the whole community to fellowship and enjoy this fun event, regardless of ability to contribute. The breakfast will also feature a drive-through and all proceeds will benefit the department's Christmas program, serving local children in their service area.

Jones Chapel Merry Market Vendor and Craft Show
Saturday, Dec. 7, at 9 a.m. Old Jones Chapel School, 192 County Road 940. The Merry Market is a collective of Christmas goods and gifts, conveniently located in one space.

35th Annual Cullman County Christmas Parade
Saturday, Dec. 7, beginning at noon, starting at Wallace State and traveling down U.S. Highway 31 to the fire station west of Hanceville City Hall. Get more information at www.facebook.com/hancevillecivitan.

Cullman Ballet Theatre School Presents "The Nutcracker"
Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2:30 p.m. at Hartselle High School, 1000 Bethel Road. Cullman Ballet Theatre School will present its annual production of "The Nutcracker" at Hartselle High School. Get tickets online at www.cullmanballettheatre.com.

Cullman Chapter of The National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, Dec. 9, at The Golden Corral Restaurant. Our program will be our Christmas "dirty Santa" $10-$15 gift exchange. Dutch lunch prior to meeting, which begins at noon. Members and nonmembers welcome. This meeting will be our last meeting until April 2025. More info 256-708-5326.

South Vinemont Free Senior Citizen Christmas Fellowship Event
Monday, Dec. 16, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center. Local seniors are welcome to attend and enjoy lunch and activities. There will be a pie/cake competition, with the winner receiving a $25 Walmart gift card. 88 Ridgeway St.

ENTER TO WIN!



PURCHASE TICKETS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A RUGER AMERICAN GENERATION 2 308. THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD FOLLOWING THE END OF OUR ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA. ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARD OUR CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES IN NEED IN OUR COVERAGE AREA. YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE TO ENTER THIS DRAWING. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN. WINNER IS SUBJECT TO STATE/FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECKS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE PRIZE. PRIZE MUST BE PICKED UP FROM VAN'S SPORTING GOODS. MESSAGE US ON FACEBOOK, SEE ANY DEPARTMENT MEMBER, OR STOP BY BERLIN TOWN HALL TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 23, 2024

Wallace State adding Women's Flag Football in Fall 2025

Special to The Cullman Tribune



WSCC

Wallace State Community College is one of several Alabama community colleges that will add women's flag football in 2025.

HANCVEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College is one of several Alabama community colleges that will add women's flag football to its athletic offerings, as announced Tuesday by the Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC).

"Adding women's flag football to Wallace State's athletics is an incredible opportunity to enhance our commitment to empowering female student-athletes," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics. "This new sport not only aligns with our mission to provide inclusive, enriching experiences but also represents a significant step forward in expanding pathways for our students to excel both on and off the field. We're excited to be part of a movement that promotes equity and opportunity in collegiate sports."

"This is up there with one of the most exciting program additions we've had over the past decade. It is a good day when we create more opportunities for our female student-athletes," said ACCC Commissioner Dean Myrick.

"Flag football has exploded across the state at the high-school level, and we want to capitalize on that. It's a discussion we've had for a few years, and I'm proud it's come to fruition."

Women's flag football is among the newest athletics offerings sanctioned by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), and the ACCC will offer the sport to female student-athletes, beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

Tuesday's announcement by the ACCC was conducted at the Cramton Bowl with participating college officials in attendance, including presidents, deans and athletic directors.

Representatives from NFL FLAG, Alabama Recreation and Parks Association and the Alabama Association of Resource, Conservation and Development (RC&D) program were also present.

Izell Reese, a Dothan native and Executive Director of NFL FLAG, commended the ACCC for creating an extra avenue for female athletes to potentially advance in the sport.

"Women's flag football is the fastest growing sport in the United States and arguably ever. It is skyrocketing," said Reese, an NFL veteran of seven years, who has served as executive director since 2019.

"At one time, females didn't have a path to continue to play flag football beyond high school. It's phenomenal to now hear of the opportunities that are going to come at the community college level. I can tell you the four-year colleges are thrilled about the opportunity you'll provide."

Northwest Shoals President Dr. Jeff Goodwin was instrumental in implementing girls flag football in 2021 at Oxford High School and is now excited about the opportunity for his college and the conference.

"It's certainly something we have been looking forward to at the community college level, and we're committed to it.

"Alabama Community College System (ACCS) Chancellor Jimmy Baker and the Board of Trustees do their best to support and provide the best opportunities for our students, including with extracurricular activities," Goodwin said.

RC&D, an ACCS partner, is donating $50,000 to assist with the flag football launch.

"This initiative promotes inclusion, empowers women in sports and creates new opportunities for community college student-athletes," said RC&D Executive Director Katie Conner.

"We are so proud we can be a part of this – something new and exciting for our state."

Once competition begins, the ACCC will feature the largest flag football conference in the NJCAA.

No. 7 Alabama defeats No. 20 Illinois, 100-87, in C.M. Newton Classic

Steven Gonzalez
UA Athletics

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The No. 8/7 Alabama men's basketball team defeated No. 25/20 Illinois, 100-87 in the 2024 C.M. Newton Classic on Wednesday evening inside Legacy Arena at the BJCC.

The Crimson Tide (4-1) had four players reach double figures, with Grant Nelson leading the way with a season-high 23 points to go with a team-best eight boards. Labaron Philon closed the game with a near triple-double of 16 points, nine assists and seven boards, while Aden Holloway (18) and Latrell Wrightsell Jr. (16) each finished in double digits.

The Fighting Illini (3-1) were led by Will Riley who scored 18 points total to go along with nine rebounds and four assists.

Head Coach Nate Oats Postgame Comments

"That was a big win. Illinois is a good team, they're talented and have multiple guys who are going to end up playing in the NBA. They have length everywhere and they beat us on the boards tonight, so we have to be significantly better on the glass moving forward. I thought our guys did a much better job defensively, we needed to clean a few things up going into tonight, but we played hard all game and had a great group in there defensively at the end to close it out.

"On offense, I thought we got to the rim all night which was huge, there were lots of positives all game. We shot the ball well from some of our guys. Grant (Nelson) got his confidence going early and Labaron (Philon) has been playing really hard and almost had a triple double. Overall, the ball movement was a lot better tonight – 23 total assists to only seven turnovers was big for us. A lot of positives to take away from tonight but there is still plenty of things for us to improve upon."

Team Stats

- Wednesday's meeting with Illinois marks the fifth matchup in series history, with the Crimson Tide holding the all-time series advantage at 4-1
- Alabama surpassed the century mark for the second time this season and for the 23rd time in Nate Oats' tenure
- The Crimson Tide distributed the ball well, totaling a season-high 23 assists on 39 made field goals
- UA took care of the basketball, finishing with a season-low seven turnovers
- Grant Nelson was on fire from behind-the-arc, tying his career-high with four made threes
- Alabama's bench played a crucial role in the victory, outscoring the Fighting Illini's reserves, 39-24
- The Crimson Tide also boasted an edge in the paint, with 50 points to Illinois' 38
- Labaron Philon flirted with a triple-double, scoring 16 points with nine assists and seven rebounds



UA ATHLETICS

Alabama defeated Illinois 100-87 in this year's C.M. Newton Classic in Birmingham Wednesday.

First Half

- Alabama made five three-pointers on its first seven possessions, including Grant Nelson's perfect 3-of-3 start from deep
- The Crimson Tide was efficient on the offensive end, dishing out 13 assists on 21 made field goals, while only surrendering three turnovers
- UA shot 76 percent (13-of-17) from two-point range in the opening half
- Nine of Alabama's 10 players scored in the half, with Nelson leading all scorers with 19 points
- Aden Holloway was a perfect 4-for-4 from the floor, which led to 11 points
- The Tide forced Illinois to miss 11 consecutive field goals over a five-minute stretch, which allowed Alabama to hold a 14-point advantage at the break
- UA's 52 first half points are a season-high

Second Half

- After facing its largest halftime deficit this season, Illinois clawed back into the game, twice trimming the Alabama lead to eight points
- On both occasions, Alabama responded by immediately pushing the gap to at least 14 points
- Latrell Wrightsell Jr. led the Tide's offense in the second half, scoring 13 of his 16 points in the second stanza
- The Crimson Tide's ball distribution continued after the break, recording 10 assists on 18 made field goals

Up Next

- Alabama will head to Las Vegas, Nev., to compete in the Players Era Festival, beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 26
- The Tide will also play games on Wednesday, Nov. 27 with the final day of the event coming next Saturday, Nov. 30
- The Crimson Tide's first game in the Players Era Festival will be against No. 7/7 Houston at the MGM Grand Garden Arena. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. and can be seen on TBS.



$50K Gene Haas Foundation Grant awarded to Wallace State

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College announces it has received a $50,000 Gene Haas Foundation Grant, which will be used to fund scholarships for Machine Tool Technology students.

"Wallace State Machine Tool Technology appreciates the continued support from the Gene Haas Foundation," said Program Director Justin Burnett.

"These funds will help support scholarships for current and incoming students in our Machine Tool Technology and CNC programs here at Wallace State."

The Machine Tool Technology program offers both day and evening courses for students interested in learning skills that will help them build a career in a variety of industries.

Many students have jobs in the field before they graduate the program, Burnett said.

The Gene Haas Foundation was established in 1999, by Gene Haas, founder and owner of Haas Automation, Inc., to support the needs of the local community, through grants to such local charities as the Boys and Girls Clubs, Food Share, Rescue Mission and others.

Seeing a growing need for skilled manufacturing employees industry wide, the Foundation expanded its mission to include support for manufacturing training programs throughout North America and beyond.

By providing scholarship grants, sponsoring individual and team CNC competitions, and partnering with the very best CNC training programs in the world, the Foundation helps expand the availability of high-quality manufacturing technology training worldwide.

The Gene Haas Foundation donates millions of dollars every year to manufacturing education and the community.

In 2022, the Gene Haas Foundation provided more than $27 million in grants, bringing the total since inception to more than $175 million.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State Community College's Future Foundation recently received a $50,000 Gene Haas Foundation Grant to fund scholarships for Machine Tool Technology Students. Pictured from left, in front, are Associate Dean of Applied Technologies Jerry Murks; Brandon Pruitt, sales engineer with Phillips Commercial, Haas Factory Outlet/A Division of Phillips Corporation; and Machine Tool Technology Program Directory Justin Burnett; in back, WSCC Machine Tool Technology students Marshal Doherty, Jared Smith, Hayden Naylor, Lawson Rowe, Nicholas Kilander, Caleb Hallman, Maverick Johnson and Tanner Endress.

Finding strength in unity: 2024 End Addiction Rally looks to bring hope to Cullman – Dec. 13

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — On Friday, Dec. 13, Spirit Life Church Cullman will host the 2024 End Addiction Rally, a free event aimed at bringing the community together for an evening of "encouragement, connection and worship."

The evening kicks off at 6 p.m. with a meal featuring ribs, smoked chicken and all the fixings, followed by a service at 7. Attendees will hear from powerful men and women of God, connect with local ministries and rehab facilities and engage with live podcasts and resource booths designed to support individuals and families affected by addiction.

For Jordan Cantrell, organizer of the rally and a graduate of Foundry Farm, the event is deeply personal. Having walked the difficult road of recovery himself, Cantrell now works to create a safe space for others to find encouragement and healing.

"When I had the vision of putting this event together, I began thinking of my own journey and how hard this year has been for me personally," Cantrell shared. "I then began to realize, if I needed encouragement, then others probably do as well. This event is about everyone coming together for edification, awareness and encouragement. Our goal is that we finish the year encouraged to continue in this fight."

The rally's mission extends beyond individual support, with hopes to unite a broad network of local Celebrate Recoveries, rehab facilities and ministries under one roof, creating a shared purpose of breaking the chains of addiction. Cantrell emphasized the importance of the collaboration.

"Our goal at Spirit Life for these events is to promote others, despite the church or program they're associated with," he said.

"Sometimes, we can get so caught up on the name outside the building or facility, and that can bring about division and competition. We want to bridge the gap and come together with the mindset that we're all in this together, fighting one goal and one purpose: to help bring people out of the darkness of addiction."

Cantrell attributes much of his passion for helping others on their recovery journey to his own experiences and his church, "I am a graduate of the Foundry Farm, and I also attend Spirit Life Church. So, my passion is to help those struggling with the same issues that I've overcome," he shared.

"There are many people at Spirit Life Church who have similar passions and stories who also serve in this capacity.

"We want to provide a safe place for people to come, and experience change with people who have walked down the same roads and paths without judgement or pressure."

The rally will feature informational booths where attendees can connect with resources, including live podcasts like Rehab Revs.

These purposeful elements provide opportunities to hear real stories of recovery and gain access to vital support networks. Eight local ministries and several rehab facilities are currently expected to participate.

Spirit Life Church is located at 1650 Saint Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman, AL. For more information about the event, contact the church at 256-739-3326 or spiritlifesocial@gmail.com.

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BOOK REVIEW

‘First Frost’ by Craig Johnson

Cathy Lay Mayor
Tribune Contributor

“First Frost” is the 20th novel in Craig Johnson’s “Longmire” series.

The novel is written with a dual timeline. One is during the present day, with Walt Longmire (the fictional sheriff of Absaroka County in Wyoming), being questioned by a judge about a murder that took place in the previous book of series called “The Longmire Defense.” It is not necessary to read “The Longmire Defense” to enjoy “First Frost.” In “The Longmire Defense,” Walt had to shoot a man in self-defense, but the victim’s family has a lot of political power and wants Walt charged with murder. Walt handles this problem calmly, just like he does in all of his predicaments and adventures.

The other timeline takes place in 1964 after Walt and his best friend, Henry Standing Bear of the Cheyenne Nation have graduated from the University of Southern California where they played four years of football.

Walt and Henry enlist in the military expecting to be sent to Vietnam. Both think they may have some input to their assignments during the war by volunteering.

Their plan is to drive across the country to their different assigned training facilities. Soon after entering Arizona, Walt’s pick-up truck runs off the road, stranding them in Arizona. They walk to the nearest town called Bone Valley.

The town is just as uninviting as the name. They are told repeatedly to leave town, but the part for Walt’s truck will take a few days to arrive. Something is definitely wrong in this town, and the future sheriff is persistent in solving the mystery.

The story from 1964 is the most suspenseful of the two timelines. It involves drug smugglers, a former judge who rules the town and a secret involving Japanese-Americans being held in an incarceration camp.

Craig Johnson does a wonderful job of weaving an intriguing story. He switches effortlessly between the two timelines.

His descriptions of Wyoming, California and Arizona are captivating. His dialog is delightful, full of subtle humor.

I continue to be amazed by his vocabulary. I have read all the Walt Longmire novels and my favorites are the ones that depict Walt and Henry in their youth.

This brings more depth to their characters. It also demonstrates how long they have been friends and it gives background information about the pair.

Craig Johnson also includes a cast of likable characters like his attorney daughter Cady, Ruby, the secretary of the sheriff’s office, Victoria Moretti, his undersheriff and Lucian Connolly, the previous sheriff of Absaroka County.

“Craig Johnson is the New York Times bestselling author of the Walt Longmire mystery novels, which are the basis for Longmire, the hit Netflix original drama. The books have won multiple awards: Le Prix du Polar Nouvel Observateur / Bibliobs, the Wyoming Historical Association’s Book of the Year, Le Prix 813, two time Western Writers of America Spur Award winner, the Mountains & Plains Book of the Year, the SNCF Prix de Polar, Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year, The Watson Award, Library Journal’s Best Mystery of the Year, the Rocky, and the Will Rogers Award for Fiction. Spirit of Steamboat was selected by the Wyoming State Library as the inaugural One Book Wyoming. Johnson lives in Ucross, Wyoming, population 26.” (www.craigallenjohnson.com)

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

St. Bernard Middle School Canned Food Drive an ‘outstanding success’

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — St. Bernard Preparatory School said it is thrilled to announce the outstanding success of its annual Middle School Canned Food Drive, organized by the Middle School Student Council.

“This year, our compassionate students, faculty and families came together to collect 525 canned goods and food products, all of which have been delivered to St. Vincent de Paul to support those in need,” said a media release.

“This drive reflects St. Bernard Prep’s core values: compassion, service and a commitment to making a meaningful impact in the local community.

”The hard work and dedication of the Middle School Student Council, along with the generosity of everyone who donated, truly embodies the spirit of giving.”

“We are so proud of our students for their initiative and heart,” said Middle School Principal William Calvert.

“Their efforts remind us that even small acts of kindness can have a profound impact on the lives of others.”



Standing are Andrew Nguyen, James Grey, Josie Lamote, Brooklyn Agnello and Sawyer Watwood. Seated are Blaise Sparks and Kade Chamblee. »

ST. BERNARD

Cards (from Front)

ic Achievement, Academic Growth, Graduation Rate, College and Career Readiness Rate, Chronic Absenteeism and Progress in English Language Proficiency.

College and career readiness

For 2024, students at Cullman High School achieved an all-time high in the College and Career Readiness Indicator of 95.2%. For the sake of comparison, that indicator has increased from 88.48% in 2018.

The college and career readiness rate reflects a school’s success in preparing students for life after graduation.

The higher the score, the more students are ready for college, careers or other opportunities, setting them up for success in the future.

“This achievement highlights Cullman High School’s commitment to excellence and our students’ determination to prepare for life after high school,” Lindsay Brannon, director of academic affairs, said.

“It reflects the hard work of our students, teachers and staff, showing that we are preparing them to succeed in any path they choose. By equipping students with the skills and knowledge needed for college, careers and other opportunities, Cullman High School is helping to create brighter futures for our students.”

Improvements in chronic absenteeism

Districtwide for Cullman City Schools, the chronic absenteeism rate was down to 8.3% in 2024, from 9.7% in 2023. For context, the State of Alabama considers chronic absenteeism at 18 days missed. This means students can miss up to 10% of the school year for excused and unexcused reasons. If students miss more than 18 days they are considered chronically absent.

This metric accounts for 10% of the state report card grade. Understandably, this is an area that is difficult for schools to control, as in most cases, attendance starts at home. But chronic absenteeism rates have been trending down over the last three years in Cullman City Schools, a sign that families, students and faculty are all bought in to the importance of consistent attendance.

“This reduction in chronic absenteeism has everything to do with our great families and motivated students,” Kallhoff noted.

Cullman County Schools

Cullman County Schools is proud to announce that the district has received an “A” on its 2023- 2024 State Report Card. Through hard work by our teachers, administrators, staff, superintendent and district leadership, Cullman County Schools has increased its state score by 10 points in the last six reporting years.

“We are thrilled to receive this recognition,” said Dr. Shane Barnette, superintendent of Cullman County Schools. “This A rating is a testament to the commitment of our entire school community to providing high-quality education for every student.”

The State Report Card is a comprehensive assessment of school district performance, measuring factors such as student achievement, growth and graduation rates. The “A” rating achieved by Cullman County Schools indicates exceptional performance in these areas.

Cullman County Schools attributes its success to several key factors:

• Dedicated educators: Highly qualified teachers and staff who are passionate about student learning

• Strong parent partnerships: Collaborative relationships between parents and schools to support student success

• Innovative teaching strategies: The use of cutting-edge instructional methods to engage students

• Focus on student well-being: A commitment to providing a safe and supportive learning environment

Cullman County Schools will continue to strive for excellence and provide the best possible education for all students.

Mrs. Kim Lindsey, Cullman County Schools secondary curriculum coordinator, stated, “Cullman County Schools earning an ‘A’ on the state report card shows the hard work and dedication of our teachers in helping schools succeed. This grade reflects the district’s efforts to overcome learning loss from the pandemic, our increase in graduation rate and college and career readiness and our commitment to providing every child with exceptional educational experiences.”

The school system barely earned a B on the State Report Card for the 2016-2017 school year and everyone throughout the school system went to work and gradually improved the score to an 85 and then a 90 just before COVID. After COVID, it has been a real challenge for the system to get back to where it was previously.

“We have students on 30 different campuses, and I am super excited to say we have great things happening at all of them,” said Barnette.

“While our students, faculty, staff, parents and community partners have a lot to be proud of, we cannot have the mindset that we have arrived because there is still so much to be done.

”Many of our students bring a wide variety of challenges with them to school... from poverty, intellectual, emotional, behavioral and mental health related, we want to help each of them to be successful beyond high school by helping them reach their fullest potential.”

Report card stats from the 2023-2024 report (Overall Score: 90/A)

• Graduation Rate: 97% (up from 94%)

• College & Career Readiness: 98% (up from 97%)

• Chronic Absenteeism: 11% (down from 13%)

• More than half our schools saw an increase in their overall report card score

View the scores for all local public schools at https://reportcard.alsde.edu.

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Obituary Announcements: Nov. 21-22

Dan Spencer Lanier, 79
Funeral service for Dan Spencer Lanier, age 79, of Cullman, will be Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, with Bro. Estell Riddle officiating. Visitation will be held at the chapel from noon - 2 p.m. and interment will be at Oak Level Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Dan was born on June 26, 1945, to Arlie and Margaret Lanier and he passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024. He was preceded in death by his parents; grandson, Austin Williams; brother-in-law, Julius Frith. He is survived by his daughter, Michelle Williams (Charles); stepdaughter, Stephanie Whitten; brother, Stephen Lanier (Carolyn); sisters, Barbara Frith, and Nancy Anderson (Scott); step-grandsons, Jake and Luke; and a host of family and friends.

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Keeping the roads hot

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Dickey Betts used to sing, "I was born a traveling man." My mama used to say the same about me. She used to tell me that my middle name was "Go." She also liked to tell me that I kept the roads hot. I can't deny any of those things. This past week, I have definitely been burning up the roads. I have also been burning the proverbial candle at both ends.

The week started for Jean and me with a trip to the Gulf Coast...well, almost to the coast. We spent the first part of the week attending the annual Alabama Baptist Convention in Daphne. It has nothing to do with the seafood, but I do love it when we meet at the coast! I'm afraid I did some damage to the shrimp population! We made it back home Wednesday just in time to leave again to go teach Bible study at our church in Lanett.

We stayed home Thursday and Friday. Well, I stayed in the woodshop most of that time. Saturday morning, we headed out again. This time it was to Marietta, Georgia. I spoke at a dear friend's funeral there. God blessed Marcella Singletary with 93 years in this world, and now she has gone to her eternal home. God blessed Jean and me with knowing Marcella for almost 40 of those 93 years. She and her late husband, Buddy, and actually their entire family, were like family to us. Back in 1985, I became their pastor, but that evolved into so much more. I have eaten smoked pork and fried chicken at her house more times than I can count. The Colonel and Mr. Cathy should have been glad that Granny Marcella never opened a chicken restaurant! I ate her fried okra, too, and I don't even like okra!

Our Ashley was born while we lived in Marietta. We lived a couple of hours from her real grandparents, but Marcella lovingly filled in for them. She often said, "Bring that baby out here and you and Jean go out and do something." For our first night out as new parents, we went to see the movie, "Three Men and a Baby." We were two greenhorn rookie parents watching "Three Men and a Baby." I'm not sure which one of us knew the least about a baby, but Granny Marcella knew more about them than any of us! She had raised three of her own and half of the community to boot, not to mention a house full of grandkids. She was indeed a jewel that will be greatly missed!

My final road trip for the week carried over into the new week. Right after church on Sunday, I headed to in the direction of the coast again. This time my traveling partner was my grandson, Drew. We went to Plum-nearly. That's plum to the bottom of the great state of Alabama and nearly in Florida. Ole Billy Bob was the special guest at Maple Avenue Baptist Church in Geneva. This was my second time to do a program for that church, but my third time for that pastor. Since it was late when we finished, and since Drew has gotten old, we stayed over. Okay, maybe I'm the one who has gotten old. Staying over had nothing to do with one of the few remaining Shoney's breakfast buffets being in Dothan. We did, somehow, manage to go home that way. I think it was because Drew was driving and he didn't know the way. For the rest of the week, well, I think I'm just going to rest and go nowhere...for a couple of days!

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

HISTORY

Files from yesteryear: 1900, 1930, 1950

From the files of 1900

Vick Clark is among the clerical force at the Racket Store.

Ed Daniel has opened a restaurant in the old Speegle store building.

S.M. Allison has opened a jewelry shop, near the Bargain Store.

Mr. and Mrs. H.L. Heidelburg will leave the last of the month for Los Angeles, California, where they expect to make their future home.

Miss Hassie Mayo, who had taught school at Walter and Baileyton, died recently at the home of her brother, Thomas Mayo, at Walter.

William H. Waldrop has been appointed Notary Public in Beat 13.

Doctor James P. Moon and Miss Joe Ann Johnson were married, at Bremen, on October 7th.

From the files of 1930

The Coterie was presented the "Loulie Jones" gavel for community service at the district federation club meeting in Hartselle, on October 15th. Those attending from Cullman were Mesdames M.H. Killingsworth, O.P. Jackson, O.D. Kennamer, Charles Alley, V.H. Collins, J.M. Oldacre, W.S. Leeth, C.L. Martin, J.C. Martin, W.A. Green and Bess Morrow.

Professor and Mrs. R.P. Johnston spent last weekend, in Nashville, with relatives.

The Cullman Baptist Association will meet, with Etha Baptist Church, on October 28th-30th.

Mr. and Mrs. Charley Boschung spent Sunday, in Jasper.

The recent school census shows 752 people in Cullman County, over ten years of age, who can neither read or write.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Deppe, Misses Margaret Deppe and Laura Dennis motored to Birmingham, on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Morgan, of Carrollton, Georgia are guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Patrick.

Saint Bernard College and Cullman High will renew athletic competition with a football game. The Girls C Club will sponsor a parade and the Cullman band will play.

From the files of 1950

The new Seventh Street Baptist Church building is almost complete.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Burrow, of Trade celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary, on October 15th, with a dinner party.

J.P. Hudson, of Fairview, is in serious condition in Veteran's Hospital in Tuscaloosa.

Thirty-three Cullman County 4-H Club boys and girls will feed calves for 1951, County, District and State Fat Calf Shows. The following will feed calves: Bobby Ellenberry, Raphael Lowry, Betty Lou Phillips, Dale Stallings, Lady Claire Davidson, Ralph Jenkins, Junior, Mary Frances Hanby, Colonel Filyaw, Donnie Blair, Talmadge Filyaw, John Vernon Oaks, Fay Eddleman, Delton Stidham, Wade Stewart, Mary Lee Hesterly, Bryon Eidson, Jerry Aldridge, Charles Helton, Erma Dean Bailey, Asa Blalock, Junior, Ralph Blalock, Delton Blalock, L.J. Hollis, Donald Ware, Joe Stallings, Dwyane Hand, Roland Hinkle, Kennon Wood, Dois Sims, Dan Sims, Iola Graham, Marlin Graham, Jackie Atchley and Maurice Blalock.

POET'S CORNER

Thanksgiving Blessing | By: Randy C. Hale

What a bird that fills our oven,
stuffed with all that cornbread stuffin.

Golden glazed with browning juices,
ain't no way I am refusin.

Buttered breast and turkey thighs.
Is it ready, I'm about to die?

Momma says it's almost dinner.
With this feast, we're sure a winner.

Now bow your heads and thank the Lord,
for all His blessings we can afford.

And this one thing we must confess,
that there are others not as blessed.

So don't you waste one single bite,
for the Good Lord knows that's not right.

Enjoy this time we have together,
for it will pass just like the weather.

May special memories fill our heart
of this Thanksgiving, when we're apart.

Oh, thank you, Lord, we know it's true
that this Thanksgiving we owe to you.

We give our thanks and look to heaven,
for all the many blessings given.

And to this gracious prayer we end,
and may we say a great Amen.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

NOV. 23

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

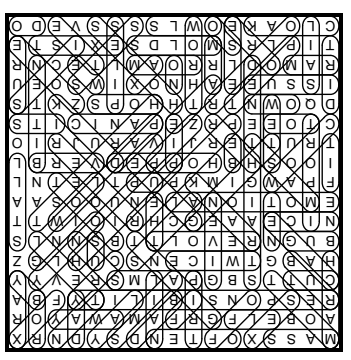
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Punish
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Revolt
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

NOV. 23

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

ANSWERS:



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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 23, 2024

Branham will not seek reelection to Cullman City School Board

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — When his second term is complete next year, Cullman City School Board Member Chris Branham has announced he will not be seeking reelection for a third term.

Branham currently represents Place 2 on the school board.

"I would like to thank Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff, as well as the current and past board members for a great eight years of service," Branham said. "I have enjoyed my time with the board, being a part of our schools and getting to work with our faculty and staff. I believe in this community and know that it will continue to grow and prosper in the years ahead. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve this community. We have such a wonderful place here in the state of Alabama to live, play, work and worship. That place, my friends, is Cullman."

Branham will serve out his current term, which runs through next year. At that point, the board seat will be open for public election for voters to elect the next Place 2 board member.

Students (from Front)

Lauren Estes
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GOOD HOPE, Ala. — The Good Hope High School Ag Department crafted and sold decorative Christmas trees built by the students recently - with the bigger versions selling out in only two hours.

Ag Teacher Brandon Dingler said they sold large trees (36 inches) for $20 and small trees (10 inches) for $5.

"It totally blew me away," Dingler said. "We got some we are finishing up, but they have already been spoken for. I'm not sure of the exact total, but we probably had a combination of 70 big and little trees. I do have a handful of the small trees left.

"The trees were part of the students' wood project for this semester. I think we should clear $400-$500 profit. We don't really focus on making money. The goal for building the trees was to provide the students a 'hands-on' learning experience. Most of my students have never used shop tools before arriving to my class. The goal is to teach the students shop safety and the basics of woodworking. The bonus is that we can make a little money. That money can be used for future projects and offsetting the costs of field trips and site visits for our students. For example, we took a group of seniors a few weeks ago to a site visit at Louisiana-Pacific in Hanceville. The students participated in a safety meeting, toured the facilities, learned about the process of making OSB board and learned about employment opportunities. I'm currently in the process of lining up field trips and site visits for our 10th-11th graders."

Dingler said the class plans on making and selling items again next year, and in the years to follow.

"The plan is to add a variety of different items next year," he said. "We are already experimenting with some ideas for next year. I'm not sure where the idea exactly came from.

"To be honest, it was probably scouring the internet. I wanted the students to be involved in a project that would involve multiple steps and tools. We built a few last year as a trial run. The students seemed to enjoy it and it was a challenge for them. The trees are by no means perfect, but they are the result of great efforts by the students."

Dingler encouraged people to support local schools, farmers and businesses, especially this holiday season.

"There have been so many people that have invested in our program over the last two years and created incredible learning experiences for our students," he said. "The Cullman County Poultry and Egg Association, The Cullman County Young Farmers, Lora Gilliand and Louisiana-Pacific and Brett Haynes with Grandview Mountain Strawberry Farms are just a few that have really helped us out in the last two years. I know all the ag programs across the county do a fantastic job in providing learning opportunities for the students. If their program has something going on, support them."

Also, Dingler added, it's easy to see some of the projects they do in ag class, but all the teachers at Good Hope and across the county do a fantastic job.

"I visited Good Hope Primary School last week to eat lunch with my daughter and it was awesome to see what was going on in their hallways," he said. "Student work was evident all throughout the hallways. As I was leaving, I had multiple students show me their displayed work with great pride. There are great things happening in all the schools across the county."

Season (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com



KIM REBURN

Santa and Mrs. Claus visit with a resident in 2021.

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The City of Hanceville is looking to make the holiday season a little brighter for local nursing home and assisted living residents by providing Christmas cards.

City of Hanceville Administrative Assistant Kim Reburn said they start collecting Christmas cards in November and deliver them just before Christmas to spread holiday cheer.

"It all started in 2021 when a resident named Donna Gangi stopped by to chat with (former) Mayor (Kenneth) Nail and me," she said. "Donna shared how she had approached several community leaders with her ideas for giving back, but no one had stepped up to help her bring them to life. One of her ideas truly stuck with us: Christmas cards for nursing home residents. That very week, I made a post on the City's Facebook page, and the response was incredible! We collected over 2,000 cards that year. To make the season even brighter, Mr. and Mrs. Claus joined us to personally deliver the cards to each resident, creating a truly magical experience."

Reburn said the cards come from all over. She said Hanceville Nursing & Rehab houses about 208 people, while Monarch Place has around 54 residents.

"We receive handmade cards from local homeschool groups and elementary classes, as well as churches, businesses and local families drop off cards," she said. "Even our mayor, City employees, firefighters and police officers get involved. Some cards are extra special because they include the paw print 'signature' of our court dog, Cinderella! The staff at both facilities are wonderful, and they go above and beyond to make the day a success. They especially love the visits from Mr. and Mrs. Claus, who bring smiles to everyone they meet."

Community members can get involved with this event by helping keep the tradition alive.

"This year, we haven't received any cards yet, so here's how you can help," Reburn said. "You can drop off signed, unsealed cards for us to distribute, or if you'd prefer, you can bring blank cards, and we'll make sure they're signed with love by someone special. Your simple act of kindness can make a world of difference for these residents. Let's come together to show them they're loved and remembered during the holiday season."

A few of Reburn's favorite memories of the event include seeing the residents' faces light up when they see Santa.

"It's pure magic," Reburn said. "Their whole demeanor changes, and you can feel the warmth and joy radiating from them. The holidays can be tough for anyone, especially for those in nursing homes who haven't had family visit in a long time. Some residents with Alzheimer's are completely amazed that Santa has come to see them — it's like Christmas morning when they were kids. Others are flooded with nostalgia, reliving the joy of Christmases past. They dance, sing, laugh and embrace the moment with so much happiness that you never want to leave. It's a reminder of how powerful even the smallest acts of kindness can be."

Reburn said she is truly grateful for the amazing people who make the event possible.

"I may not play a significant role, but it's an honor to be involved in bringing joy to others, especially when it brings me so much joy in return," she said.

For more information, or to donate Christmas cards, contact the City of Hanceville at 256-352-9830. Hanceville City Hall is located at 112 Main St. SE.







