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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Charles Lynn Patton, Herbert 'Jack' Benton King, Rex Johnny Wood, Jr., Joe Destafino, Pamela Cochran, Robert Earl Bailey, Douglas 'Joe' Brock, Danny Ray Thomas, Annis Juanita Burdick

» PAGE 7

WEATHER

72 57

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

SLIGHT CHANCE SPRINKLES

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Vinemont, Holly Pond advance to area tournament finals with wins

» PAGE 4

Crocker appointed to Alabama Coroners Training Commission

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker was recently appointed by Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall to the Alabama Coroners Training Commission for a one-year term.

According to www.alacoroner.org, the "Alabama Coroners Training Commission seeks to provide comprehensive training programs and resources for death investigation professionals in Alabama. With a focus on enhancing skills and knowledge in forensic science, investigative techniques, and legal procedures, the Commission ensures high standards in the field."

"I am honored that Gen. Marshall would appoint me to serve on this commission, which ensures high standards in death in- » PAGE 6



CONTRIBUTED

Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall and Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker

Safe Haven Baby Box to be installed at Cullman Fire Rescue Station 3



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Fire Rescue Station 3 is located at 1920 Butler St. NW, off of Alabama Highway 157. Learn more about Safe Haven Baby Boxes at www.shbb.org.

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Safe Haven Baby Box will be installed at Cullman Fire Rescue Station 3 on the north side of the city, offering parents experiencing a crisis a safe and secure way to surrender their newborns with anonymity. The boxes are designed to prevent infant abandonment and ensure surrendered infants receive immediate medical attention.

The Cullman City Council recently authorized Mayor Woody Jacobs to enter into an agreement with Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. for installation of the box.

Both Jacobs and Fire Chief Darren Peeples are in support of the new installation. This new initiative conforms with Safe Haven laws, which allow parents to safely relinquish the care of their child to authorities without judgment.

"Statistically speaking, most babies which have been surrendered to a Safe Haven Baby Box are from outside counties, most likely due to concern for anonymity," said Jacobs. "However, if it helps only one child in the next 10 years, then it will be worth knowing we saved one life due to the resource(s) made available."

The Save Haven Baby Box has numerous tools to ensure the infant's safety, such as a climate-controlled environment and silent alarms that immediately notify law enforcement when a baby is placed inside. The child will be picked up within five minutes, immediate medical care will be administered and the infant will be immediately transferred to the hospital.

There is no current education plan for the Safe Have Baby Box; however, local officials have stated that the process to use the box is very straightforward. Cullman Fire Rescue has partnered with other departments that use a SHBB to model its training protocols. Extensive checkups and tests will be regularly conducted on the device to ensure everything operates correctly.

Tribune Senior Reporter W.C. Mann previously reported:

On its website, » PAGE 3

Local VFD chiefs talk training, planning

» PAGE 8

St. Bernard Prep senior spotlight: Joey Shadowens



ST. BERNARD PREP

Joey Shadowens

» PAGE 5

Scholarship auditions scheduled at Wallace State

» PAGE 2

Local students named to Mississippi State President's, Dean's Lists

» PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Feb. 3

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Feb. 3, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Jan. 30
- theft of property; CR 384
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; CR 220
- domestic violence; CR 1162
- domestic violence; Arkadelphia Rd.
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 69S

Jan. 31
- domestic violence; 2nd Ave. NW
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 91
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; certain person forbidden to possess pistol; CR 1223
- assault; criminal mischief; CR 1196
- possession of dangerous drugs; Hwy. 69N
- theft of property; Hwy. 157
- trafficking drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of dangerous drugs; CR 1527

Feb. 1
- violation of protection order; CR 1196
- theft of property; CR 223
- theft of property; CR 57
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; US. 31

Feb. 2
- burglary; theft of property; CR 1670
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 1043
- possession of dangerous drugs; CR 473

ARRESTS

Jan. 30 – Feb. 2

Abbott, Donna R.; 49
- assault-harassment

Barboza Jr., Rafael H.; 28
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Barnett, Stacy L.; 39
- negotiating worthless instrument

Campbell, Jessica A.; 41
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – DUI (controlled substance)
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Cofer, Josiah M.; 24
- DUI (alcohol)

Degollado Mireles, Juan J.; 36
- possession of methamphetamine

Espostio, Jan M.; 45
- illegal possession/use of a credit/debit card
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Ferguson, Michael P.; 49
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Fowler, Robby L.; 36
- auto theft and sale

Garrison, Treasa L.; 45
- cruelty to dog/cat

Guzman-Rodriguez, Diego D.; 22
- public intoxication

Ingram, Bridget N.; 27
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – assault-child abuse-simply-family

Latham, William C.; 53
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Loggins, Ashely D.; 38
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Marlow, Christopher L.; 39
- DUI (alcohol)

McCollins, Timothy A.; 45
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Mcintyre Jr., Bryan D.; 40
- FTA – criminal trespass
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Mickle, Daniel J.; 42
- PROBATION VIOLATION – endangering welfare of child

Nail, Erica L.; 34
- DUI (alcohol)

Parker Jr., Roger W.; 47
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Pate, Jeremy B.; 35
- theft-theft of property-2nd degree, $1500-2500

Paul, Michael J.; 46
- FTA – DUI (alcohol)

Phillips, Zachary H.; 20
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of hallucinogen
- possession of methamphetamine
- drug trafficking

Philyaw, Dereck D.; 37
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Richter, Morgan B.; 22
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Sellers, Brent M.; 53
- FTA – possession of a concealed weapon without a permit
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Smith, Evelyn G.; 50
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – drug trafficking

Steel, Thomas J.; 35
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of methamphetamine

Stephens, Joseph A.; 41
- robbery-street-strong arm

Swann Jr., Johnny G.; 43
- domestic violence protection order enforcement act

White, Roger A.; 46
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)

Wilson, Richard W.; 33
- possession of methamphetamine

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Jan. 31
- theft of property-1st degree; Bill Smith Used Cars; '22 Chev. Carmaro; $40,000; Hwy. 157
- counterfeit $20's; State of Alabama
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; miscellaneous; $60; Hwy. 278W

Feb. 1
- theft of property-4th degree; Dick's Sporting Goods; miscellaneous; $400; Cullman Shopping Center
- theft of property-4th degree; criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $167; Olive St. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $138; Olive St. SW

Feb. 2
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '10 Chev. Tahoe; $1,000; Town Square SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $10; Olive St. SW
- unlawful breaking and entering of motor vehicle; theft of property-2nd degree; person; pistols; $1,000; Marktplatz Ctr. SW

ARRESTS

Jan. 31 – Feb. 2

Dixon, Douglas L.; 34
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Thornton, Stacy B.; 26
- theft of property-4th degree

Frazier, Michael T.; 54
- unlawful possession/receiving of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Lowrie, Danielle K.; 31
- DUI
- resisting arrest
- obstructing governmental operations

White, Roger A.; 46
- theft of property-4th degree

Westmoreland, Terena N.; 40
- theft of property-4th degree
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Pierce, Ryan S.; 33
- menacing (2 counts)
- reckless endangerment
- obstructing governmental operations

Fowler, Frances W.; 52
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree

Lawrence, Destini Q.; 31
- theft of property-4th degree

Taylor, Annaleigh G.; 18
- theft of property-4th degree

Drake, Stephanie J.; 40
- DUI

Elmore, Lindsey K.; 41
- DUI

Benge, Melessa A.; 44
- DUI

Freeman, Dalton M.; 29
- unlawful possession/receiving of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Philyaw, Dereck D.; 37
- public intoxication

Vespi, Douglas E.; 28
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Scholarship auditions scheduled at Wallace State

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College's Fine and Performing Arts program has announced dates for scholarship auditions for the 2025-2026 academic year, with opportunities for current and incoming students to earn funds for their education.

Auditions will be held Friday, Feb. 7, and Friday, March 7, at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts from 8 a.m.-noon each day. Auditions on Feb. 7 will be held for instrumental, vocal and theatre ensembles. March 7 auditions will include those ensembles as well as auditions for the dance program.

Wallace State Performing Arts programs consists of vocal and instrumental ensembles, dance and theatre. Students can audition for more than one ensemble across all programs. Recipients are required to be full-time students taking 12 or more credit hours, maintain a GPA of 2.5 and meet other requirements specific to each program.

The Performing Arts programs that offer scholarships include instrumental groups: Concert Band, Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble; vocal groups: Concert Choir, Wallace State Singers and Vocal Jazz; the Allegro Dance Theatre; and Wallace State Theatre, including performance and technical scholarships.

The ensembles perform independently as well as cooperatively in numerous productions each semester. There are numerous travel opportunities each year, as well. The ensembles have travelled nationally and internationally to perform, including trips to Europe, Washington, D.C., and Orlando, Florida. Participation is open to all Wallace State students, regardless of their major.

Audition requirements and registration links can be found under the Scholarship Information link at www.wallacestate.edu/fpa. Registration for auditions is encouraged but not required. Students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and a scholarship application before a scholarship can be distributed.

For more information contact Amy McDonald at 256-352-8277 or amy.seymore@wallacestate.edu.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State students practice a scene from "Peter and the Starcatcher." Scholarship auditions for Wallace State Theatre, Instrumental, Vocal and Dance ensembles will be held Feb. 7 and March 7.

Local students named to Mississippi State President's, Dean's Lists

A. Matthews
Mississippi State University

MISSISSIPPI STATE, Miss. — Mississippi State University congratulates 4,569 students who were named to the fall 2024 President's List. These students achieved a 3.80 or better grade-point average, based on a 4.0 scale, while completing at least 12 semester hours of coursework with no incomplete grades or grades lower than a C.

Local students include:
- Shea Eaton of Cullman
- Kaden Lackey of Arab
- John Quillin of Arab
- Isabella Warden of Hanceville
- Garrett Riggs of Hanceville
- Sarah Dockery of Vinemont

Students named to the Dean's List at Mississippi State must have achieved a grade-point average between 3.5 and 3.79, based on a 4.0 scale, while completing at least 12 semester hours of coursework with no incomplete grades or grades lower than a C.

MSU's fall 2024 Dean's List includes 2,661 students who attained this honor, and the following local students are included:
- Isabel Newby of Bremen

Some names of students may not appear on these lists as a result of student requests for privacy from publication through the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

About Mississippi State University

Mississippi State University is a national STEM-focused, doctoral degree-granting, land-grant university offering a wide range of educational experiences for learning and growth to a diverse student body of more than 23,000 students.

Among the National Science Foundation's Top 100 research universities, MSU provides access and opportunity to students from all 50 states and 94 countries. MSU is committed to its comprehensive research university mission, addressing complex local and global issues with innovative ideas and solutions.



Box (from Front)

the manufacturer said of its product, "Designed with innovative safety features and installed on the exterior walls of fire stations and hospitals, each box ensures the safe and anonymous surrender of infants. The exterior door locks automatically when a newborn is placed inside, and an interior door allows medical personnel to promptly and securely retrieve the baby, ensuring immediate care and protection.

"Every year, countless infants are heartbreakingly abandoned in the United States. While each situation is unique, parents are continuously finding themselves in times of crisis, facing emotional and practical challenges that can lead to desperate and unsafe decisions. These tragic stories underscore the urgent need for a secure and compassionate alternative that provides parents with a safe and anonymous option for child surrender and gives children the possibility of a brighter future.

"Since 2016, Safe Haven Baby Boxes have provided a discreet and secure option for parents to surrender their newborns. By raising awareness of the Safe Haven Law, operating a national 24-hour hotline, and carefully designing and implementing Baby Boxes in fire stations across the United States, Safe Haven Baby Boxes help ensure that no child is left without care and no parent feels like they have no options."

Cullman Fire Chief Darren Peoples told The Tribune that he was unaware of incidents of infant abandonment in Cullman, but "nationwide there's been a positive response to mothers having a way to help their children in bad situations, to give them a safe haven."

Cullman Fire Rescue Station 3 is located at 1920 Butler St. NW, off of Alabama Highway 157. The Tribune will report when installation of the box is complete.

Learn more about Safe Haven Baby Boxes at www.shbb.org.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit your calendar items or public notices to wendy@cullmantribune.com

Music Every Thursday Night in February at the Bethel Community Center
4-8 p.m. at the center, just off U.S. Highway 278, west of Cullman on County Road 1117. Bluegrass, gospel and country music. Musicians are welcome with acoustic instruments only. Covered dish supper and everyone is invited. Please join us! No entry fee, but donations are appreciated for building upkeep.

Grief Support Group
Every Sunday at 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 615 Third Ave. SE. Contact Reverend Warren Ruland at 256-962 2521.

Cullman County Republican Women Monthly Meetings
Second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Cullman VFW. President Cathi Bradford: "We are going to begin training to track legislation in Montgomery. If you need information, you can directly message me on Facebook." Full meals at 5:30. Meetings start at 6.

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 (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

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.

The 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.

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Wednesday, Feb. 5 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, Feb. 7 - Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Bring a dish, dessert or drink for a potluck meal at 5:45 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Saturday, Feb. 8 - 8 a.m. Men's breakfast
• Sunday, Feb. 9 - 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.

Cullman Public Library Storytime: 'The story of Empty Bowls in our town'
Tuesday, Feb. 4, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Story reading and pottery activity by Christy Brock and Tanya Shearer. Join us as we celebrate 20 years of Empty Bowls!

Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr. in Cullman.

Frame Loom Weaving Class
Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 1 p.m. at the Cullman Senior Center. 60 and older. $42 per person, which includes all supplies. Seating is limited, so those interested are encouraged to sign up soon. The class will be taught by Emily Wallace with Handwoven Designs. Sign up at https://square.link/u/XjtHP68k or by stopping by the center. The Cullman Senior Center is located at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW in Cullman. Get more info by calling 256-734-0145 or visiting Cullman Senior Center and Travel on Facebook.

Youth Rally
Sunday, Feb. 23, at 6 p.m. At the Foot of the Cross Church, 2.25 miles north of Alabama Highway 157 on Eva Road. Tyler Williams and Ryan Wilburn preaching. Please join us for a great time in the Lord.

At the Foot of the Cross Church 4th Annual Homecoming
Saturday, March 1, at 2 p.m. at the church, 2101 County Road 1435 in Vinemont. Joyful Hearts, Short Creek Gospel Trio and Family Tradition will be bringing music! Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided! Come join us for a wonderful day in the Lord!

Fused Glass Art Class
Tuesday, March 18, at 12:30 p.m. at the Cullman Senior Center. 60 and older. For $22 per person, participants can make a fused glass flowerpot magnet to take home. Seating for the class, taught by Kimberly Love, is limited, so sign up soon. Sign up at https://square.link/u/mdLS2ZtL or by stopping by the center. The Cullman Senior Center is located at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW in Cullman. Get more info by calling 256-734-0145 or visiting Cullman Senior Center and Travel on Facebook.



Fused Glass Art Class

with Kimberly Love

March 18th @ 12:30 pm

Come make a lovely Flower Pot Magnet that you will cherish forever!

$22 Per Person, seating is limited

Deadline to register is 3/4/25

Location

Cullman Senior Center

1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW

Cullman, Al. 35055

For more Info: 256-734-0145 or

email; kyoung@co.cullman.al.us

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 4, 2025

PREP BASKETBALL

Vinemont, Holly Pond advance to area tournament finals with wins

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. – This year's 3A, Area 11 Tournament was in full swing at Vinemont High School Friday night and a pair of local teams shined in the semifinals to advance to the area finals. Vinemont handled J.B. Pennington in the first game of the night 63-24 and in the second game, the Holly Pond Lady Broncos held off Locust Fork 31-20 to secure their spot in Monday's area championship game.

Vinemont 63 - J.B. Pennington 24 (Semifinals)
Both offenses struggled to get anything going to start out the game. J.B. Pennington hit a pair of free throws to take a 5-3 lead with 4:29 remaining in the first quarter. Vinemont's offense slowly started to get going after that. Morgan Flanagan nailed a three, Caroline Miller got the offensive rebound and put it back in, and Flanagan added a steal and a layup to give them a 10-5 lead. After a Lady Tiger basket cut it to 10-7, Flanagan scored in the paint, Miller drained a three, and Reagan Robinson added a basket of her own down low to stretch the Lady Eagles' lead to 17-7 going into the second.

Four quick points by J.B. Pennington made it a 17-11 game. Vayda Yarbrough laid it in to give Vinemont a 19-11 lead. With a little over three minutes to go in the first half, Miller knocked down a three to extend the Lady Eagle lead to 22-11. Miller added another basket in the paint, and Robinson went coast-to-coast for the layup to put Vinemont ahead, 28-13. They would take a 29-13 lead into the locker room.

The second half would see Vinemont dominate the Lady Tigers on both ends of the court. Carley Stephens put in a basket in the paint, then a pair of baskets by Miller gave them a 36-18 lead.

Addison Holcomb scored down low, then Miller buried another trey and Arleigh Thomason added one of her own from long-range to make it a 44-20 game. Thomason collected a steal and laid it in on the other end, then Miller buried her third three of the game to put the Lady Eagles ahead, 51-20, going into the fourth quarter.

Layups by Brooklyn Yarbrough and Miller gave Vinemont a 55-23 lead. Brooklyn Yarbrough added a floater, then Flanagan scored down low, and Hailey Millwood knocked down a three, as Vinemont ended up rolling past J.B. Pennington, 63-24, to move on to the area championship game.

Miller finished with 22 points for the Lady Eagles. Flanagan added 11 points, and Robinson collected eight points.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Vinemont Lady Eagles defeated J.B. Pennington 63-24 Friday night to advance to the 3A, Area 11 finals.

Holly Pond 31 - Locust Fork 20 (Semifinals)
Millie McBee split from the free throw line to put Holly Pond on the scoreboard first then later added a steal and layup to give them a 3-2 lead. Locust Fork scored the final eight points of the quarter, as they ended up taking a 10-3 lead into the second.

McBee collected her second steal of the game, and she laid it in to cut it to 10-5, but a pair of baskets by Locust Fork gave them a 14-5 lead. Thomas split her free throws to make it a 14-6 game. Madison Butts nailed a short jumper, then Maggie Nail drained a late three to cut it to 14-11 going into the locker room.

Alana Phillips knocked down a long jumper to trim the deficit to 14-13. After McBee split her free throws, Thomas nailed a short jumper to give Holly Pond their first lead of the game at 16-14.

Sadie Nail's rebound and putback made it 18-14 late in the third. Thomas added another late basket to extend the Lady Bronco lead to 21-16 at the start of the fourth.

Thomas scored again down low, then later in the fourth, Butts drained a pair of free throws to give Holly Pond a 25-17 lead.

A trey by the Lady Hornets made it a 25-20 game, but that's the last basket that the Lady Bronco defense would allow in the game. Thomas hit a pair of baskets in the paint, and McBee added a driving layup to put the finishing touches on a 31-20 win for Holly Pond.

Thomas led the way for the Lady Broncos with 11 points, and McBee posted eight points.

Vinemont and Holly Pond will face each other in the Class 3A, Area 11 championship game on Monday at 6 p.m.

PREP BASKETBALL

St. Bernard, Addison earn area tournament wins

Todd Walker
Correspondent

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Saint Bernard Ladies, winners of the regular season area title, won the right to host the 1A, Area 13 tournament. Addison would play Meek while St. Bernard would play Cullman Christian in the night cap. Addison got by Meek 37-30, while St. Bernard defeated the Lady Lions 44-37. The top-seeded Lady Saints will host second-seeded Addison on Monday night for the area title.

Addison 37 - Meek 30 (Semifinals)
The Addison Lady Bulldogs got off to a great start as they won the opening period 13-8. With the Lady Tigers up 8-7, Addison finished the first period scoring the final six points of the frame. Addison's Karson Wyatt and Lauryn Cunningham nailed back-to-back threes to end the first. Meek was led by Addyson Williams who scored 6 points and pulled down 4 rebounds. Addie Cate Henderson scored the other bucket for the Lady Tigers. Cunningham led Addison with 7 points while Wyatt had 3 boards.

The second period, as well as the rest of the game, would be nip and tuck throughout. With both teams scoring 7 points in the second period, Addison took a 20-15 lead into the half. Meek was led by A. Williams who had 3 points.

Henderson and Zoey Hearn each had 2 rebounds for Meek. Addison was led by Katie Barrett who had 4 points. Ava Bartlett had a monster second period. Although she didn't score, Bartlett pulled down 7 rebounds and had 3 blocked shots.

The second half began and again, it was close. Addison outscored Meek 8-7 to go into the fourth period leading 28-22. The turning point in the game seemed to be when Meek's A. Williams picked up her 4th foul with 1:58 to go in the third. She had to sit and Addison stretched their lead to 25-19 and they held on for a six-point lead going into the final period. Henderson led Meek with 3 points while A. Williams and Molli Sandlin each had 2 rebounds. Addison was led by Bartlett's 3 points and 7 more boards.

The fourth period was a 9-8 Addison win. This propelled the Lady Bulldogs to a 37-30 victory over the Meek Lady Tigers. Key moments of the fourth were with two minutes left in the game and Addison leading 32-28, Wyatt, with an assist from Cunningham, hit a layup to give Addison the 34-28 lead. Addison's Gracie Roberts was able to hit 3 of 4 free throws to end the game and give Addison the win.

Addison Head Coach Bailey Boland,
"I told the ladies before the game that the game would be close, and it would come down to whomever wanted it more. We had two really good practices, and I felt good about tonight. We won the glass and did the little things and that enabled us to prevail. Karson (Wyatt) and Ava (Bartlett) had huge games for us."

Unofficial stats
Addison was led in scoring by Wyatt with 12 points, 14 rebounds and 2 assists. Bartlett had 8 points, 22 rebounds and 6 blocked shots. Cunningham had 8 points, 3 boards, 4 assists and 3 steals. Barrett had 6 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 blocks. Roberts had 3 points and 2 rebounds. Emma Cleghorn had 3 rebounds.

Meek was led in scoring by A. Williams with a game high 13 points and 7 rebounds. Henderson with 7 points and 6 boards. Rilee Williams had 4 points and 2 boards. Sandlin had 2 points and 4 boards. Hearn had 2 points and 4 rebounds. Kyler Shehan had 2 points.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

St. Bernard's Ella Davis led the Lady Saints with 23 points in their 44-37 win over Cullman Christian Friday night.

St. Bernard 44 - Cullman Christian 37 (Semifinals)
In a surprising start the Lady Lions were able to come away with a tie with the area champs in the first period. The score at the end of one was 9-9.

The Ladies from Cullman Christian didn't appear to know that they were the four seed and were supposed to roll over to the area champs. The Lady Lions were led by Brooklyn Hammack with 4 points. Katelee Blalock had 5 rebounds and Lisa Sellers had 4. St. Bernard was led by Ella Davis with 7 points.

The ladies from St. Bernard apparently woke up in the second period and played outstanding basketball on both ends of the floor. The Lady Saints dominated the Lady Lions outscoring them 16-2 in the second to take a 25-11 lead into the half. Davis had 7 points while Rowan Hines and Caroline McBride each had 3 points.

Hines also had 3 rebounds for the Lady Saints. Not much to brag about the Lady Lions in the second but Zoe Powell had their only bucket in the period. Powell and Gracie Stidham each had 2 rebounds for Cullman Christian.

The Cullman Christian Lady Lions never quit and came out and actually outscored St. Bernard in the third period. The Lady Lions won the period 16-12 to cut the lead down to 37-27 heading into the fourth. Cullman Christian was led by Sellers and Piper Coots with 5 points apiece. Stidham, Powell and Coots each had 2 boards. The Lady Saints were led by Davis with 6 points and McBride with 4. Davis led with 4 rebounds and McBride chipped in 2.

The fourth period was close, as Cullman Christian was able to chip away at the lead and actually got it down to 6, 41-35 with 4:35 to go in the game. St. Bernard then showed their maturity as they were able to settle down and hold the Lady Lions to 2 points the remainder of the game. St. Bernard held on for a closer than expected win, 44-37. The Lady Lions were led by Sellars with 6 points. The Lady Saints were led by McBride with 5 points and 3 rebounds.

Unofficial stats
St. Bernard was led in scoring by Davis with a game high 23 points and 7 rebounds. McBride with 14 points and 8 boards. Hines with 3 points and 4 boards. Sarah Woods had 2 points and 3 rebounds. Katie Chamblee had 2 points and 2 rebounds. Avery Hines had 2 rebounds.

Cullman Christian was led by Sellers with 11 points and 6 boards. Coots had 10 points and 4 rebounds. Powell had 8 points and 5 boards. Hammack had 4 points. Stidham had 4 points and 6 rebounds. Blalock had 5 rebounds.

All four teams should be proud of their seasons and the future is definitely bright for this area as between the four teams, there are only five seniors on their rosters. Addison has four of them. So good luck to the Lady Saints and Lady Bulldogs as they will battle for the area title on Monday at Saint Bernard.

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13-14 Oz.
Regular or Beef
$2.99 EA.



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Imported
$2.49 LB.



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California Grown
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FAYGO SOFT DRINKS
12 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans
Selected Varieties
3 for $12



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30 Oz.
Original Only!
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VAN CAMP'S PORK AND BEANS
15 Oz.
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18 Oz.
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FOOD CLUB CHEESE
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Shredded Selected Varieties
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45 Oz.
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BLUE BELL ICE CREAM
Gold or Brown Rim Half Gallon or
12 Pk. Cups Selected Varieties
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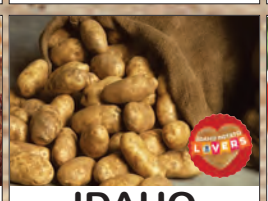
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12-14 Oz.
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OSCAR MAYER BACON
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Original or Thick
$4.99 EA.



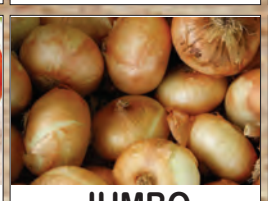
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8 Oz. Original
or 1/3 Less Fat
2 for $5



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Gallon
Selected Varieties
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10 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$4.99 EA.



FOOD CLUB TOMATOES
14-15 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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VELVEETA CHEESE
2 Lb. Loaf
Selected Varieties
$7.99 EA.



HORMEL CHILI
15 Oz. Plain or With Beans
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



Velveeta® Chili Cheese Dip

SERVINGS: 8 servings
PREP TIME: 5 minutes
TOTAL TIME: 30 minutes

INGREDIENTS

1 (10-ounce) can HORMEL® Chili with Beans
1 pound pasteurized prepared cheese product, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
1 (10-ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chiles, undrained

DIRECTIONS

In large microwaveable bowl, combine ingredients. Microwave on HIGH 6 minutes or until melted, stirring after 3 minutes. Stir mixture until completely melted and mixture is well blended.



RO★TEL TOMATOES
10 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $3



DAISY SOUR CREAM
16 Oz.
Regular or Light
2 for $5



PACE SALSA OR PICANTE SAUCE
15-16 Oz. Selected Varieties or
Salsa Con Queso or Nacho Jalapeno
2 for $5



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14 Oz.
2 for $3



KRAFT DELUXE MAC & CHEESE
14 Oz. or 12 Oz.
Velveeta Shells & Cheese
2 for $6



CHEF BOYARDEE
7-8 Oz. Microwaveable Cups or
15 Oz. Cans Selected Varieties
4 for $5



ZATARAIN'S RICE MIX
7-8 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4



PRINGLES POTATO CHIPS
5-5.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4

NABISCO RITZ CRACKERS
7-13.7 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7

FOOD CLUB POPCORN
6 Pk. Microwave
Selected Varieties
2 for $6

RED DIAMOND TEA BAGS
24 Ct.
Family Size Quart
2 for $4

CHEX MIX OR BUGLES SNACKS
6-8 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4

GENERAL MILLS CEREAL
10 Oz. Honey Nut Cheerios, Cocoa Puffs or Lucky Charms,
12 Oz. Cinnamon Toast Crunch or 10.7 Oz. Trix
2 for $5

PILLSBURY CAKE MIX OR FROSTING
15-16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
4 for $5

THAT'S SMART! FOAM PLATES
30 Ct.
99¢ EA.

PIT BOSS PELLETS
20 Lb.
Selected Varieties
$7.99 EA.

KINGSFORD LIGHTER FLUID
32 Oz.
$3.49 EA.

KINGSFORD CHARCOAL
16 Lb. Bag or 12 Lb.
Bag Match Light
$9.99 EA.

LAY'S POTATO CHIPS
7.75 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5

FRITO LAY DORITOS
6-10 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $8

TOSTITOS CHIPS OR DIPS
8-12 Oz. or 15 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7

GOLDEN FLAKE, UTZ, ZAPP'S OR ON THE BORDER CHIPS
7-12 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4

PEPSI, MTN DEW, STARRY, DR PEPPER, SUN DROP, R C COLA, A&W OR 7 •UP
12 Pk.
12 Oz. Cans
2 for $11

PEPSI, MTN DEW, STARRY OR DR PEPPER
6 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
3 for $12

AQUAFINA WATER
24 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
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18 Ct.
Selected Varieties
$8.99 EA.

LEWIS BAKE SHOP BUNS
8 Ct.
Burger or Hot Dog
2 for $5

LITTLE DEBBIE SNACKS
8.46-13.1 Oz. Box
Selected Varieties
2 for $5

COORS LIGHT OR MILLER LITE
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Cans or Bottles
$13.49 EA.

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10-12 Oz.
$4.29 EA.

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All Varieties
4-12 Pk.
$3.99 EA.

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Original or Mild with Jalapeno
32 Oz.
$10.99 EA.

FATHER'S TABLE VARIETY CHEESECAKE
32 Oz.
$11.99 EA.

FAITH

St. Bernard Prep joins thousands at 2025 March for Life

Joyce Nix
St. Bernard Prep

Students from St. Bernard Prep School in Cullman joined thousands of pro-life advocates at the nation's capital for the annual March for Life, a demonstration of the sanctity of human life. The 2025 pilgrimage, held Jan. 24, carried profound spiritual significance as participants engaged in prayer, reflection, and a unified mission to uphold the dignity of every human being. This year's theme, "Life: Why We March," inspired a renewed commitment to the cause.

The journey began with prayer, joining the monks of St. Bernard Abbey at their daily 5 P.M. Mass, seeking God's blessings for a safe and meaningful trip. After sharing a meal together, the students and chaperones boarded buses with excitement and resolve, embarking on their pilgrimage to Washington, D.C.

After sleeping on the bus overnight as it headed to its destination, the students arrived in the city. They enjoyed a Capitol Tour, and had the privilege of meeting Congressman Robert Aderholt, R-Alabama. The next stop was the Saint John Paul II National Shrine, a sacred space that offered moments of prayer and reflection.

The group celebrated Mass and delved into the teachings of Pope Saint John Paul II, a devoted advocate for life and human dignity.

The trip also included visits to Washington's historic monuments, guided by the expertise of St. Bernard Prep instructor James Griffin, which enriched participants' appreciation for the nation's heritage and values.

On the morning of the March, students attended Life Fest 2025 at EagleBank Arena, a pre-march rally filled with music, prayer and inspirational testimonies.

The program featured several impactful speeches, including remarks by Vice President J.D. Vance. Energized by the event, the group joined thousands of others in the March for Life, walking in solidarity to proclaim the sacredness of every human life.

After the march, the group gathered for dinner at National Harbor, and concluded the day with visits to Washington's museums, providing an opportunity to explore history and culture.

The final highlight of the trip was Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, where pilgrims united in prayer for the protection of life.

The school's head of campus ministry, Sr. Therese Lopez, LIHM, said March for Life was more than an event; it was a mission — a chance to stand together in faith, pray for the protection of life and proclaim the truth that every human being is invaluable.

"We were strengthened in our faith and commitment to the pro-life cause. May our voices be heard, and may our prayers help cultivate a culture of life."

As students returned home, their faith and dedication to the sanctity of life were deeply renewed. In their words, "We marched not only for those who cannot speak for themselves but for a future where every life is valued and celebrated."



ST. BERNARD PREP

Students march at the 2025 March for Life.

Shadowens (from Front)

Joyce Nix
St. Bernard Prep

St. Bernard Prep School proudly shines a spotlight on senior Joey Shadowens, whose remarkable achievements and diverse talents set him apart as a standout student and community leader.

Shadowens joined the St. Bernard Prep family in the seventh grade after completing six years at Sacred Heart School in Cullman. Now a senior, he manages a rigorous academic schedule that includes five Advanced Placement (AP) classes — Calculus, Physics I, Computer Principles, Government and Literature. Recently, he completed a Dual Enrollment English 102 course at the University of Alabama, highlighting his dedication to academic excellence.

Outside the classroom, Shadowens is a key member of the St. Bernard Prep band, where he plays the trombone. His schedule consists of work commitments, balancing part-time hours during the school week and full-time hours on weekends at Doug Doggett Jewelers in Cullman.

In addition to his academic and professional pursuits, Shadowens holds several leadership positions. He serves as vice president of the Student Government Association at St. Bernard and is an active participant in the Student Advisory Board for First National Bank and the Youth Leadership Development Program.

Shadowens credits his mother, Stefani Nelson, for inspiring his community involvement.

"My mom volunteers at several organizations; I follow along to help out where I can such as the library and Chamber of Commerce functions," Shadowens shared. Her influence has shaped his passion for service and fostered a deep appreciation for giving back to the community.

Beyond his school and community commitments, Shadowens enjoys the responsibilities of farm life, where he cares for an array of animals, including horses, six birds, four tortoises and two rescue dogs.

Shadowens' hard work and dedication have earned him recognition from the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), which honored him with the Good Citizenship Award. Recipients of this prestigious award were selected by school faculty and evaluated based on recommendation letters, school and community activities and volunteer efforts.

Shadowens' academic achievements have also led to acceptance offers from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Auburn University, the University of Alaska in Fairbanks and the New York Institute of Technology. He is eagerly awaiting a decision from Vanderbilt University. Shadowens plans to major in physics and aspires to become the CEO of a science-based company, or physicist, though he says teaching remains a "hard maybe."

St. Bernard Prep celebrates Joey Shadowens for his outstanding contributions to the school, community and beyond. His dedication, leadership and ambition make him an exemplary role model and a true embodiment of the school's values.



ST. BERNARD PREP

Joey Shadowens



St. Bernard Athletic Boosters to host Annual Draw Down Dinner Feb. 8

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The St. Bernard Athletic Boosters will host the annual Draw Down Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Fazi-Richard Athletic Center. This highly anticipated event serves as a key fundraiser for St. Bernard Prep's athletic programs.

Tickets are $100 each, admitting two guests for an evening of dining, beverages, games, a silent auction and the opportunity to win the grand prize of $10,000.

With only 434 tickets available, guests are encouraged to secure their spots early.

"All proceeds from the event directly benefit our athletic department," said Athletic Director Tim Burleson.

"Athletic programs come with significant costs, including uniforms, officials' fees, stipends, travel expenses and equipment.

"The success of this event helps us maintain quality programs for our student-athletes."

Burleson noted that the school has avoided charging student-athletes an activity fee for participation in sports, thanks in large part to the continued success of the Draw Down Dinner.

For ticket purchases or more information, contact Tim Burleson at tburleson@stbernardprep.com or Leah Messick at lmessick@stbernardprep.com.

Crocker (from Front)

vestigations," Crocker said.

"Deaths are tragic, but through our officers, prosecutors and coroners working together, we can achieve justice."

The commission is responsible for making sure coroners are properly trained, which is critical for law enforcement.

"Coroners are called to death scenes, and when such a death appears to be unlawful, suspicious or unnatural, an autopsy may be ordered," Crocker said.

"The law says such an autopsy may be ordered by the governor, the attorney general, a circuit judge or district attorney.

"It is typically the district attorney who orders an autopsy. When a district attorney orders an autopsy, the body is then sent to the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for examination. I always give this decision serious thought, realizing that patient is someone's parent, someone's spouse or someone's child.

"An autopsy can prove a crime occurred; on the other hand, an autopsy can prove no crime occurred due to natural death."

Under Alabama law, any coroner, deputy coroner or any person authorized to officially represent the county coroner shall complete 12 hours of training each year, which is approved by the Alabama Coroners Training Commission, Crocker shared.

"At 6 a.m. on my first day in office, (Cullman County) Coroner (Jeremy) Kilpatrick called me from the scene of a suspicious death," Crocker said.

"I learned then how crucial it is for the elected district attorney and the coroner to have an open and direct line of communication.

"Coroners don't get enough credit for the risk factors they face in their public service duties, like fentanyl exposure, biohazard exposure and even violence.

"I appreciate the work they do, and I hope I can assist them on this commission for the next year."

Crocker also shared the following:

"When the state legislature formed the commission in 2007, it made these findings: (1) An unattended and sudden death is one of society's most tragic events and should receive the appropriate caring, competent, and thorough attention of all levels of government; (2) A suspicious, sudden, or violent death is very difficult to investigate and to accurately determine the cause and manner of death for the death certificate; (3) Medical examiners and coroners determine the cause of death and with other forensic scientists and investigators determine the manner of death; (4) Death certificates issued on unattended, sudden, and violent deaths greatly impact government spending decisions, the living loved ones, and insurance decisions so that the accuracy of the death certificate is of great concern to the Legislature; (5) There are currently no minimum standards of training for county coroners; (6) Local coroners or non-physician death investigators are necessary and critical to the investigation of unattended deaths in Alabama; (7) The competency of unattended death investigations is directly related to the minimum education and training standards of the investigators and standards need to be established and implemented statewide." (Alabama Code 11-5-30)

"I am looking forward to working with my fellow commission members to make sure that our coroners have excellent training," he said.

MOVING SALE
FEBRUARY 8,2025 8 AM - 1 PM
551 COUNTY ROAD 1652 CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35058
Dark Oak Bed Headboard/footboard, oak kitchen table with 6 chairs, Pottery Barn Comforter with matching curtains/pillow shams/ pie safe/pictures/bed spreads/ entertainment center/large glass front curio cabinet, TV stands/desk and much more.
CASH ONLY

LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF NORMA FAYE ELLARD, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2025-023

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Bruce Ellard as Personal Representative of the Estate of Norma Faye Ellard, deceased, on the 3rd day of February, 2025, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County.

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

BRUCE ELLARD
Personal Representative

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

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

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

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

HE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MARK ALAN JOHNS, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2024-444

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to CODY JOHN AND TAYLOR JOHNS as Personal Representative of the Estate of MARK ALAN JOHNS, deceased, on the 3rd day of February, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

CODY JOHNS AND TAYLOR JOHNS
Personal Representative

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Petitioner
Post Office Box 517
Cullman, AL 35056-0517

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

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

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

HE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JENNIFER DAWN HEARLD Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2024-454

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to BRITTIANY N. ROMERO as Personal Representative of the Estate of JENNIFER DAWN HEARLD, deceased, on the 3rd day of February, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

BRITTIANY N. ROMERO
Personal Representative

William S. Pylant (PYL002)
PYLANT ESTATE LAW, LLC
229 East Side Square
Huntsville, AL 35801
will@pylantestatelaw.com
(256)529-4747

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

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

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

HE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of MARY SUE BANISTER, Deceased. * CASE NO. PC2024-322

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO PROBATE WILL AND FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY

TO: DEBORAH SHASTEEN LONG, HUNTER SHASTEEN, J.J. SHASTEEN a/k/a JAMES S. SHASTEEN, III, LARRY SEMEVOLOS, AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF MARY SUE BANISTER, DECEASED.

Petition to Probate Will and for Letters Testamentary filed by William Thomas Blankenship, Petitioner, through Attorney Clint L. Maze. A hearing has been rescheduled on this matter for the **8th day of April, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.**, before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear if they think proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Done this the 23rd day of January, 2025.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice four (4) successive weeks is said newspaper.

Clint L. Maze
Attorney for Petitioner
Wilmer and Lee, P.A.
725 North Brindlee Mountain Parkway
Arab, AL 35016

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA LEE PARRISH, Deceased * **Case No. PC 2024-449**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters of Administration for Patricia Lee Parrish, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 23rd day of January, 2025 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Callahan Parrish
Personal Representative

Amanda Hardin Schafner
Schafner Law
Attorney for Petitioner
5000 Grantswood Road, Suite 120
Irondale, AL 35210
256-490-3004

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of BOBBIE M. DUKE, Deceased. * CASE NO. PC 2025 - 012

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Jonathan Wayne Duke as Personal Representative of the Estate of Bobbie M. Duke, deceased, on the 24th day of January, 2025, 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.

Jonathan Wayne Duke
Personal Representative

Shay Persall
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 Seventh Street SW
Cullman AL 35055
(256) 841-7800

Attorney for Personal Representative

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

CULLMAN HOUSING AUTHORITY
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) NO. CHA2025-01
JANITORIAL SERVICES

Cullman Housing Authority is accepting bids from qualified, licensed, and insured entities to provide janitorial services for various Cullman Housing Authority locations.

A pre-submission meeting will be held on **February 4, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** at Cullman Housing Authority, located at 408 Cleveland Avenue, Cullman, AL 35055.

Separate, sealed bids to provide this service will be received at **408 Cleveland Avenue, Cullman, Alabama 35055** until **2:00 P.M.** CST, **February 20, 2025.**

Electronic bids documents are available through Housing Agency Marketplace E-Procurement, by accessing the following website:

https://ha.internationaleprocurement.com/requests.html?company_id=78231

CHA reserves the right to reject any/or all bids, make the determination as to what is equal to the specifications and/or scope of work, or to waive any informality in the bids received, and to accept any bid, which, in its opinion, may be in the best interest of DHA.

CULLMAN HOUSING AUTHORITY
Marquisha Griffin, Executive Director

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of Richard J. Lindsey, Deceased) Case No. PC 2024-443

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Patricia L. Lindsey as Personal Representative of the Estate of Richard J. Lindsey, deceased, on the 24th day of January, 2025, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Patricia L. Lindsey
Personal Representative
Patricia L. Lindsey

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

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate, Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

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

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABONDONED MANUFACTURED DWELLING

Pursuant to Section 35-12A-B, Code of Alabama

Please take notice that the abandoned manufactured dwelling described below, along with all personal property located therein, will be sold in the manner provided in this Notice:

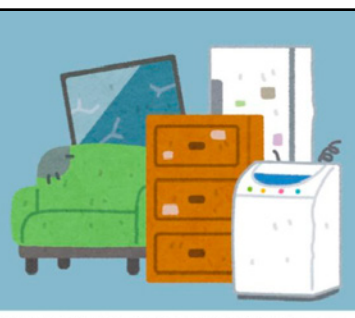
Please take notice that the Tan 2000 Cavalier 14x80 single wide manufactured dwelling VIN# ALCA1199260S43714 located at Smith Lake Marina & Resort LLC. 175 Co Rd 312 Lot# 18 Cullman, Al 35057 is considered abandoned and will be sold in the manner provided in this notice. The owner of the abandoned manufactured dwelling is believed to be Bruce Cheatham.

The sale will take place through private sealed bidding and the owner of Smith Lake Marina & Resort LLC, is authorized to purchase the manufactured dwelling pursuant to the method of sale described in this notice. The winning bidder must move the manufactured dwelling from the property of Smith Lake Marina & Resort LLC within 14 days after the award date stated herein.
Failure to remove the manufactured dwelling within such time will result in the bid being rejected.

All bids must be submitted in writing and received by Smith Lake Marina & Resort LLC on or before 12:00 noon 14 February 2025. The awarding of the manufactured dwelling will be given on or about 12:00 noon 17 February 2025. You may contact Lillie Tucker at 256-636-9696 or Keith Keel at 256-737- 7131 to schedule a time to inspect the manufactured dwelling.

CULLMAN
EST. 1873
ALABAMA

Annual
SPRING
CLEANUP



For CITY OF CULLMAN RESIDENTIAL SANITATION CUSTOMERS only

MARCH 24-28, 2025

WE CAN PICK UP THESE ITEMS:



FURNITURE
chairs, couches, tables, TVs, etc.

APPLIANCES
washers, dryers, microwaves, etc.

MATTRESSES
mattresses, box springs, etc.

BULKY ITEMS
lamps, boxes, large toys, etc.

Place your large items curbside by
6AM
on your regular trash pickup day.

Only for City residential sanitation customers with curbside pickup.

WE CANNOT PICK UP:
CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
(rocks, dirt, bricks, concrete, etc.)
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
(oil, pesticides, paint, etc.)
CROSS TIES
TIRES

MORE INFORMATION
256-737-7560
cityhall@cullmanal.gov

GREEN WASTE PICKUP DELAY
During Spring Cleanup week, we will not be picking up brush, limbs, or other yard waste in order for all crews to assist with bulk item pickup. Please refrain from placing this material out for service during the week of March 24-28, 2025.

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

SFTWI
PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 1-3

Charles Lynn Patton, 58
Funeral Service for Charles Lynn Patton, age 58 of Cullman, was at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025, at Springhill Baptist Church with Pete Grund officiating. Visitation was from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025, at Springhill Baptist Church. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Patton passed away on Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025, at University of Alabama Hospital. He was born, May 7, 1966, to James Patton and Linda Patton. He was preceded in death by his father, James Patton and sister Debbie Blankenship Survivors include his wife, Cyndi Patton; daughter, Stephanie (James) Pace; grandchildren, Gabe "Mater" Pace, Greyson Pace, Gryphon Pace; mother, Linda Patton; brother, A. Josh Patton; sister, Jamie Patton, sister-in-law, Amanda (Bryan) White; nephews, Corey and Colton White, Brayden Patton, Daniel Hyatt and a Host of family and friends. In Lieu of flowers please make your donations to Springhill Baptist Church.

Herbert 'Jack' Benton King, 92
Funeral service for Herbert 'Jack' Benton King, age 92 of Cullman, will be at noon on Friday, Feb. 7, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Wayne Barnette officiating; burial at Nectar First Congregational Methodist Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. - noon on Friday, Feb. 7, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. King passed away on Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, at Cullman Regional. He was born Monday, April 4, 1932, to Author Benton King and Burley Elton Suggs King. He was preceded in death by his father and step mother, Author Benton (Minnie) King, mother, Burley Elton Suggs King, and a host of siblings nieces and nephews. Survivors include his children, Christi (Brad) Smith and Lenissa Richards, and bonus children, Earle (Chris) Race, Shellie (David) Hines, and Mike (Glenda) Race, grandchildren, Erin (Patrick) Mosley, Nicholas (Christie) Jenkins, Nathan Jenkins, Chuckie (Lori) Doyle and Buddy Richards, great grandchildren, Autum Mosley, Jayla Mosley, Jackson Jenkins, Millie Jenkins, Ellie Jenkins, Railey Jenkins, Justin (Lisa) Doyle, Tanner Doyle, great great grandchildren, Cole Medina, Scarlet Doyle, and Mavric Doyle and a host of bonus grand and great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Rex Johnny Wood, Jr., 95
Rex Johnny Wood Jr. was born Oct. 11, 1929, in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He is preceded in death by his mother, Viola Harris Wood, his father, Rex Johnny Wood Sr., and a granddaughter, Sarah Wood. Rex is survived by his wife, Betty Jean (English) Wood of 71 years. Survivors include a sister, Marguerite Wilson, sons, Rex Johnny Wood III (Deborah), Luther Thomas Wood (Linda), daughters Deborah (Wood) Cummings, Cheryl Ann (Wood) Fellague-Chebra (Kamel). Grandchildren, Ashley (Wood) Edwards (Andrew), Cody Cummings (Lisa), Christopher Wood, and Carson Cummings (Katherine). Great grandchildren, Trenton Wood, Ethan Edwards, Cooper Wood, Kopis Cummings, Kal Cummings and Ryan Cummings. Rex attended Clemson University, served in the United States Air Force, and graduated from Presbyterian College. He was a member of the Cullman First United Methodist Church and taught the Bob Sapp and Wesley Fellowship Sunday School class for over 35 years. Rex was a retired accountant, was a talented painter and enjoyed fishing in his spare time. Rex will be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and uncle. A public memorial is planned for Saturday, Feb. 8, at 2 p.m. at Vinemont Church of God with a private interment after for the family at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Mausoleum. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Macular Degeneration Foundation at Macular.org.

Joe Destafino, 60
Joe Destafino, age 60 of Hanceville, passed away at his residence on Jan. 30, 2025. He was born Wednesday Dec. 23, 1964, in Birmingham, Alabama to Danny Joe Destafino and Elizabeth Destafino. Joe is survived by his wife of 20 years Ambra Destafino; daughter Jessica Destafino; sons Danny (Tia) Destafino and Michael Destafino; mother Elizabeth Destafino; brother David Destafino; and one granddaughter Maya Destafino. Joe is preceded in death by his father Danny Joe Destafino. Joe was a loving husband, father, son and brother. Everyone who knew Joe liked and respected him. Joe loved to work with his hands and build things. If you ever needed anything Joe never hesitated, he was there in a heartbeat to help. Everyone was always amazed at the things he could do. Some of his fondness memories was the time he spent in the Marines. He would always tell stories and talk about the places he traveled. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. We will be having a celebration of life at a later date.

Pamela Cochran, 79
Pamela Cochran, age 79, of Cullman, Alal. passed away on Friday, Jan. 31, 2025. She was born on June 3, 1945, to Herman and Ida Shaw Whatley in Manchester, England. Pamela is preceded in death her parents Herman and Ida Shaw Whatley, sisters Barbara Whatley, Linda Whatley, and Lynn Whatley. Pamela is survived by her husband of 55 years Donald Cochran, daughter Amanda Hallmark, Son David Cochran, grandchildren Jessica Hallmark and Chelsea Hallmark. A visitation for Pamela will be held Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, Chapel, 1901 Second Avenue, NW, Cullman, A> 35055, until the celebration of life funeral service at 2 p.m.; with an interment to follow at Cullman City Cemetery, 812 Ninth Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Robert Earl Bailey, 62
Funeral Service for Mr. Robert Earl Bailey, age 62 of Vinemont, will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Dennis Trimble and Rev. Terry Blankenship officiating; burial at Ebenezer Cemetery. Visitation will be from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Bailey passed away on Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025, at his residence. He was born, Oct. 10, 1962, to Felston Bailey and Louise Bailey. He was preceded in death by his parents and father-in-law and mother-in-law Jerry and Jean Ponder. Survivors include his wife, Teresa Bailey; sister, Patricia (Lowell) Hall; sister-in-law, Rhonda (Lewayne) Brock, nephews, David (Elisabeth) Hall and Tony (Mandy) Hamm; niece, Jessi (David) Fricks; great nieces and nephews, Dakota Fricks, Shelby Hamm, Colby Hamm and Ivey Kate Hall and a Host of family and friends.

Douglas 'Joe' Brock, 82
Graveside services for Douglas Franklin "Joe" Brock will be held Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Center Hill Baptist Church Cemetery in Hanceville, Alabama, with Col. Peter L. Tartar officiating. Visitation was from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 3, 2025, at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Brock was preceded in death by his wife Judith Ella Cagle Brock, his parents Rotha Jackson and Essie Bailey Brock of Cullman, and five brothers and two sisters. As the youngest of the Brock family, he gained two names that he carried throughout his life—Peewee, because he was the baby of Jack and Essie's family, and Joe, because he was born when oldest brother Winfred fought in WWII an, came home and called everyone he didn't know "Joe." Mr. Brock was a great friend to many. He could brighten anywhere he went—whether by making a sly joke or giving good advice, or, most of the time, both. He made all feel loved and included, treating people the way he wanted to be treated. He is survived by four daughters: Suzanne (James) Turner; Leasa Brock; Angela (Peter) Tartar; and Dana Lloyd; grandchildren Wesley, Will, Noah, and Andrea; and a host of great-grandchildren. The family would like to thank you all for your encouragement, love, and loyalty.

Danny Ray Thomas, 71
Danny Ray Thomas, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on Feb. 2, 2025, at the age of 71. Mr. Thomas was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on Aug. 18, 1953. Danny was a 1971 graduate of Hayden High School. After graduation, Mr. Thomas obtained his CDL's and drove a truck for many years, primarily in the excavation industry, where he was a dump truck operator. Danny also volunteered as a fireman with the Holly Pond Fire and Rescue Squad for several years and was an active member at Center Point Baptist Church. When his health allowed, Mr. Thomas enjoyed attending the Holly Pond Senior Center. In more recent years, Danny enjoyed being at home where he played games and worked in adult coloring books. Mr. Thomas is preceded in death by his parents, Grady and Velma Louallen Thomas; son, Joe Thomas; and father-in-law, Bud Heaton. Those left to cherish the memory of Danny includes his wife, Denease Thomas; son, Jasson Thomas, (wife, Brandy); mother-in-law, Billie Jane Heaton; brother-in-law, Brian Heaton, (wife Krystal); six grandchildren, Nic Thomas, Zoe Dunn, Abbye Thomas, Myah Thomas, Loralie Thomas, and Mason Thomas; as well as many other loving family members. Friends are invited to join the family for a time of visitation on Tuesday evening, Feb. 4, 2025, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel. A graveside service will be held for Mr. Thomas on Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, Center Point Baptist Church Cemetery, where Jasson Thomas will officiate. Services begin at noon. Danny was a loving husband and father, and he leaves behind a legacy that will be remembered for generations to come. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Thomas family.

Annis Juanita Burdick, 94
Annis Juanita Burdick, age 94, of Eva, Alabama passed away on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025. Juanita was an humble soul who was loved by all who knew her. She will always be remembered for her kind, caring, loving spirit. She could be surprisingly humorous and playfully mischievous. She passed away peacefully in the presence and care of family. Juanita was preceded in death by her husband Donald Burdick, her Parents Marzie and Sidney Ryan; her sisters, Louetta Kinney, Datchel Holmes, Ezell Stewart, and Gaynell Ryan; her brothers, Truman Ryan, Auburn Ryan, Gafton Ryan, and Afton Ryan. Juanita is survived by a host of nieces, nephews, friends, and caregivers. There will be a visitation on Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025, from noon until 2 p.m. with funeral services to follow immediately in the Moss Service Funeral Home Fireside Room. Juanita will be laid to rest in Providence Cemetery in Vinemont. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Free Obituary Listings

Have your funeral home contact us

Email: robin@cullmantribune.com • Fax: 256-739-4422

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



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Emergency vehicles are seen at the Gold Ridge Volunteer Fire Department during its 40th anniversary celebration in 2019.

Local VFD chiefs talk training, planning

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN COUNTY, Ala. — The Johnson's Crossing Volunteer Fire Department recently held a Ropes and Knots training course at a Berlin Volunteer Fire Department station, shining a spotlight on needs of local VFDs.

Three local fire chiefs weighed in on the importance of training events for their respective departments: Jones Chapel, Johnson's Crossing and Gold Ridge.

Jones Chapel Fire Chief Clint Thrasher said his department has a training schedule it uses and tries to offer classes, events and more.

"The fire service as a whole has changed a lot since most of the VFDs started around Cullman in the 70s," Thrasher said. "Now fire departments wear a lot of hats. Back when Jones Chapel was established, they fought fire. Now, VFDs answer fire, EMS, wrecks, HAZMAT, rope rescue, water rescues and various other types of calls for service.

"pecific training such as the rope rescue classes recently held around various agencies in the county are a prime example of this. We held two rope classes in Jones Chapel in 2024 and had one high-angle rescue during the year. These special services are extremely difficult for us because we don't do them often. I applaud all these agencies who are embracing the change and training hard to be ready to answer the calls in their community. We are a melting pot of backgrounds and we have to come together and train as a group to be able to perform when the time comes."

Thrasher said if there are new tool they need to train on, or if they struggled with something on a call and need to specifically work on that, they will.

"We meet every Monday, and the first Monday is our business meeting with fire training to follow the next two Mondays," he said. "EMS training is held on the fourth Monday. If we have a fifth Monday, it's open to do whatever is needed. Our schedule is fluid."

When referring to the necessity of training events, Thrasher said "not if, but when" comes to mind.

"When we bought rope rescue material, there were naysayers who thought we were crazy," he explained. "Less than 30 days later we performed a 85-foot vertical lift to rescue a patient from a wreck over a bridge. We never know from day to day what type of emergency we will be responding to. Also, being a volunteer department we don't know from day to day which members will be available. It's very important for us to stay on top of training."

Thrasher said anyone who is interested in joining the Jones Chapel VFD can come by on a Monday night at 6:30 or message the department on Facebook to set up a meeting.

Johnson's Crossing Fire Chief Mark Reeves shared that although Berlin VFD hosted the Basic Rope class, Johnson's Crossing had members attend the class, along with attendees from other departments.

"We are all 'neighbors helping neighbors,'" he said. "We are working on more training this year to help ourselves individually to be better prepared and as a department to help serve our communities better. It's getting harder to find people to volunteer. We are always accepting applications for new members. Every department in Cullman County needs more volunteers. All departments work hard to train and keep our equipment in good shape. We have become a family with a special bond, not only within our own departments, but also county- and statewide."

Gold Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Chief Ryan Whisenhunt said, in general, his department requires minimum training, but strongly encourages certification through accredited organizations, such as the Alabama Fire College.

"Some personnel struggle to meet dedicated schedule requirements due to full-time jobs and other responsibilities," Whisenhunt said. "For those personnel, we cycle them through an in-house training program that coincides with curriculums like that of the fire college. Each month, we facilitate a training session that varies from topics related to fire, EMS, rescue, HAZMAT, etc. The reality is this: fire is fire no matter the locality or department type. Therefore, we have to prepare the same way a municipal department does, but we sacrifice more personal time and resources because we're volunteers."

Whisenhunt said Ropes and Knots training, in a nutshell, can be as simple as how to properly secure a ladder, how to drag a victim from a fire, how to lift a patient from a ravine, how to tie down equipment — using different types of ropes.

For more information about the mentioned departments, visit www.facebook.com/berlinfireandrescue, https://tinyurl.com/JonesChapelVFD, www.facebook.com/johnsonscrossingvolunteerfiredepartment or https://tinyurl.com/GoldRidgeVFD.







