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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Grady Llyod Evans Jr., Daniel Preuss Donahue, Casey Lane Goodwin, Spurgeon Henry Jochum, Michael 'Pickel' Joe Hitt, Gerald Lamar Bentley, Melissa Riopka Crowe, David Leddell Davis Jr., Barbar Jester Laney

» PAGE 7

WEATHER

85 64

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

PATCHY FOG THEN SUNNY

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3



BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Addison splits tri-match with Curry, West Morgan

» PAGE 4

Willkommen to Cullman Oktoberfest: Oct. 3-5

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman is a small town filled with rich German history woven into the very fabric of its culture. Col. John G. Cullmann, who founded the town in the 1800s, brought along his traditions when he immigrated from Germany to settle in the area. His imprint is still evident today, 150 years after the town's settlement.

Annually, the town gathers together and celebrates its German heritage at Oktoberfest, an over the top, three-day festival of traditional German wear, food and pastimes meant to bring the past to the present and honor those who made the town what it is today.

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs smiled and said, "Whether you are a long-time resident or a first-time visitor, I encourage you to explore all that Oktoberfest has to offer. From authentic German cuisine » PAGE 6



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Last year's Burgermeister Dale Greer arrives in style as the head of the 2023 Oktoberfest parade on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023. The opening ceremony took place soon after.

Local family's home devastated by lightning



JENNA WINSTEAD

Trent, Jenna, Charlie, Holden and Owen Winstead were devastated and displaced on Friday, Sept. 13, when lightning struck their home.

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A local family is left clinging to threads of normalcy after an intense lightning strike devastated their home.

On Friday night, Sept. 13, the Winstead family was preparing for a family favorite – a movie night on the couch. Jenna Winstead, a home-health nurse on maternity Leave, her husband Trent Winstead, a retired and disabled Marine veteran, and their three children, 10-year-old Owen, 4-year-old Charlie and 1-month-old Holden and the family dogs Clara and Chloe were snuggling in for the night when a freak act of nature set the family off course.

Over the weekend the Winsteads' home was damaged, Hurricane Francine brought dangerous winds and storms along with flash flooding to the Cullman area. In booming thunder and flashing lightning, the Winsteads took precautions to weather the storm when a loud explosion sounded in the home.

"The power went out and we thought, "Well, a transformer was hit,'" shared Jenna Winstead. The family decided to pack up and head to a family member's house because they believed they were in a power outage. "When we went » PAGE 6

St. Bernard's Willa Smith named National Merit Semifinalist » PAGE 2

Cullman's Abby Sosa named 3rd Alternate in Miss University of Alabama Pageant



MICHAEL CLEMENTS/MISS UA

Left to right are Abby Sosa, Elaina Burt, Miss UA 2025 Ruby Tilghman, Imani Muse and Rylie Dewley. » PAGE 4

Cullman County Youth Football Tuesday night scores

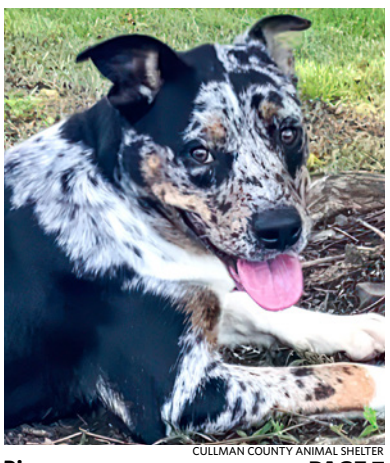


NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Good Hope Raiders won Tuesday night's Fireplug game over the Cullman Bearcats 44-0. » PAGE 4

PET OF THE WEEK

The one and only Picasso



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Picasso » PAGE 7

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Sept. 18

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Sept. 18, 2024. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Sept. 16

- retail theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $40; Olive St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; 13th St. SE

Sept. 17

- criminal trespass-3rd degree; person; 2nd Ave. NE
- theft of property-2nd degree; FleetPride; miscellaneous
- unauthorized use of vehicle; person

ARRESTS

Sept. 16-17

Brown, Anthony T.; 38

- FTA - insurance violation

Walker, Laklee S.; 31

- public intoxication

Marshall, Shea M.; 45

- FTA - driving while license suspended
- FTA - expired tag
- FTA - insurance violation (2 counts)
- FTA - driving without a license (2 counts)
- FTA - run stop sign
- FTA - theft of property-4th degree (3 counts)
- FTA - criminal trespass-3rd degree

Davis, Lynn M.; 50

- domestic violence

Creel, Patrick S.; 48

- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – DUI
- FTA – improper lane usage
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree (2 counts)
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – public intoxication (2 counts)

Simon, Shawn A.; 25

- FTA – driving while suspended

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Smith (from Front)

Joyce Nix
St. Bernard

CULLMAN, Ala. — St. Bernard Preparatory School is proud to announce that senior Willa Smith has been named a Semifinalist in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. Smith is among the elite group of 268 students from Alabama to receive this honor, placing her in the top 1% of U.S. high school seniors.

Smith was selected from a nationwide pool of over 1.3 million students across approximately 21,000 high schools who entered the 2025 competition by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). The Semifinalists represent the highest-scoring entrants in each state, with Alabama contributing 268 of these exceptional students.

To advance to the Finalist stage, Smith and a school official will submit a detailed scholarship application that highlights her academic achievements, leadership roles, involvement in school and community activities and numerous honors and awards. Finalists are required to maintain an outstanding academic record throughout high school, secure a recommendation from a school official, write an essay and present SAT or ACT scores that confirm their earlier PSAT/NMSQT performance.

Of the 16,000 Semifinalists, more than 15,000 will advance to the Finalist level in February.

All Finalists will be in the running for the prestigious National Merit Scholarship award, with winners selected based on their academic success, extracurricular involvement and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

Three types of National Merit Scholarships are to be awarded in the spring of 2025. Finalists will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit $2,500 Scholarships, awarded on a state-representational basis.

In addition, about 770 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarships will be offered by almost 130 corporations and business organizations. Approximately 150 colleges and universities will provide around 3,600 scholarships to Finalists who attend their institutions.



ST. BERNARD

Fr. Joel Martin, president of St. Bernard Prep School (left) and Headmaster Phuong Nguyen (right) congratulate Willa Smith on her recognition as a National Merit Semifinalist.

The National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced between April and July of 2025. Those students will join an exclusive group of over 382,000 Merit Scholars recognized since the program's inception.

St. Bernard Prep President Fr. Joel Martin had nothing but high praise for the high school senior, saying, "We are rightly proud of Willa for this achievement and wish her success as she advances in the National Merit Scholarship competition. She is deserving of recognition in this and in all areas of her exemplary life at St. Bernard."

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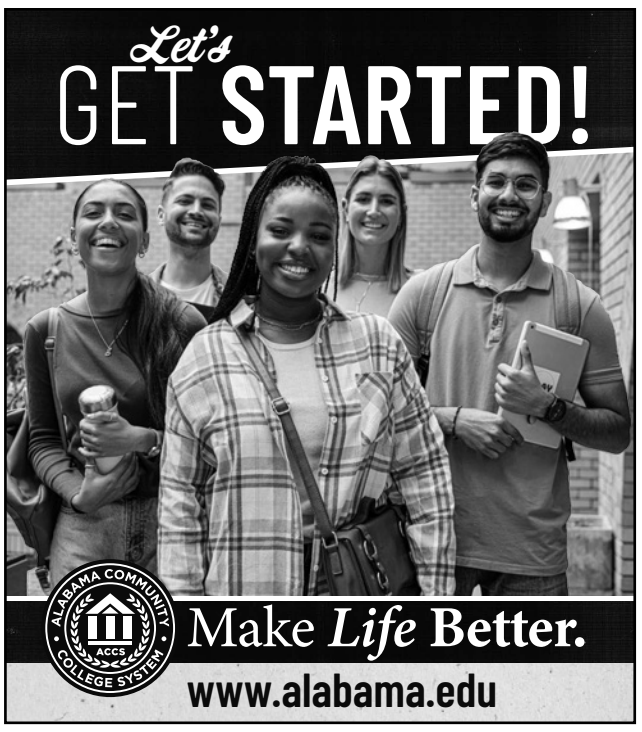
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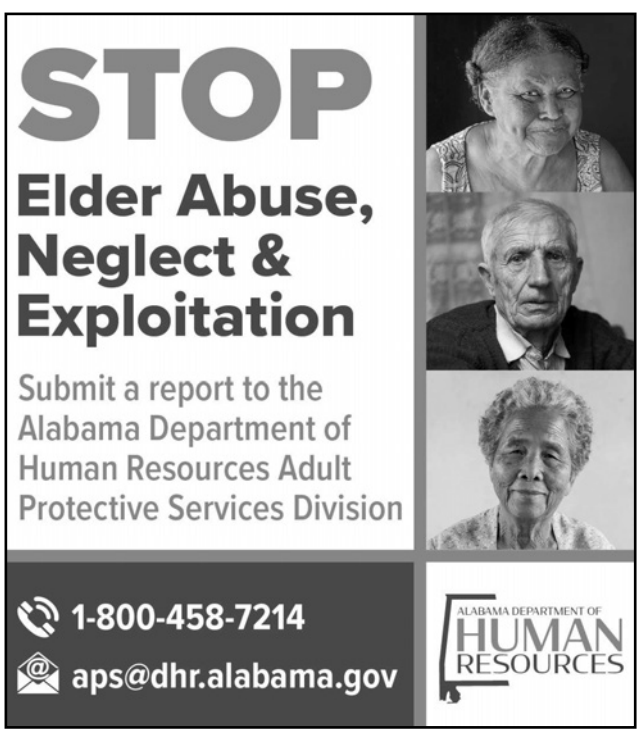
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Grace Episcopal Church Women 36th Annual Cheese Ball Sale
• We are offering eight delicious flavors, including some returning favorites, all for $10 each. To see a list and place your order, go to www.holidaycheeseballs.com. All orders must be placed by Sunday, Oct. 6. Pick-up day is Thursday, Nov. 14, at Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE. All balls will be frozen for your convenience. If you have questions, call the church at 256-734-6212.
• Proceeds from our sales help support many local organizations including the Good Samaritan Health Clinic, the Committee on Church Cooperation (CCC), the Pilot Light Home, Cullman Caring for Kids, Hope Horses and Grace Café. Our deepest thanks to you for helping us help others!

The Crossing Food Bank
The Crossing is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m. We are located at 1503 Second St. SW, Cullman, AL 35055 (in the Housing Authority).

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

Baileyton Bargain Days
First Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the old Baileyton fire station next to the town's park. Beauty and health products, toys, home goods, pet items, food and many everyday items. A donation of $20 will allow a shopper to fill up a bag, and for $40 a shopper can fill a large box. Some of the items of greater value will require a larger donation. There will be some restrictions and product limits on the items. Cash and checks accepted. Proceeds will be used for park improvements and capital improvements for the town.

Alcoholics Anonymous
The Grace of God group of Alcoholics Anonymous has open AA meetings (all are welcome) Mondays and Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. at the Carriage House, located next to Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE Cullman. Contact phone numbers: 256-347-1097, 256-841-2209 or 256-708-1340

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
Spirit Life Church of GOD, 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Friday, Sept. 20 - 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, Sept. 21 - Drive-through food bank 9-11 a.m.
• Sunday, Sept. 22 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-930-9680 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

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.

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

Save the Date: Little Pink Dress Benefit
Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 6-9 p.m. at The Venue at Cotton Creek. Handicapped parking at north entrance. Doors open at 5:30. A night of fun with dinner included, Active Adult Senior Kickers, Wallace State Jazz Band, live and silent auctions, door prizes and much more! Ticket are $60. Tickets available through Stefani Nelson at 256-708-3191 or snelson@alfains.com or Judy Grissom at Options at 256-347-5993 or options5993@gmail.com and www.CullmanBosomBuddies.com.

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

Trinity Lutheran Church German Lunch
Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 505 Commercial St., Hanceville, in conjunction with the Mud Creek Arts and Crafts Festival taking place in downtown Hanceville that day. Adult plates will include bratwurst, German potato salad, choice of sauerkraut or red cabbage, German desserts and tea for $12. A child's plate of bratwurst, snicker doodle cookies and tea will be $5. All profits will go to Hanceville schools. Eat lunch in our historic 1885 church building and tour our present worship sanctuary.

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PREP VOLLEYBALL

Addison splits tri-match with Curry, West Morgan

Todd Walker
Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. — The top-ranked 1A Addison Lady Bulldogs hosted a tri-match with 4A powers West Morgan Lady Rebels (ranked No. 4) and Curry Lady Jackets at Allen Stephenson Gym. Addison split the matches, defeating Curry 2-1 and falling to West Morgan 2-0. Curry defeated West Morgan 26-24, 17-25 and 15-12.

Addison 2 – Curry 1 (25-21, 22-25, 15-11)

The first set was simply Addison being Addison. The Lady Dawgs jumped out to a huge 11-2 lead and it would reach 13-4. Addison was led by playing excellent defense, Lauryn Cunningham and Katie Barrett. Mattie Johnson and Karson Wyatt led in serves. Then complacent Addison showed up and the Lady Jackets took 9 of the next 10 points to cut the Dawg lead down to 14-13. The two teams would alternate points, until Addison took the final two for the 25-21 victory.

The second set had the Lady Jackets playing spoiler as they jumped on the Lady Dawgs hard and dominated the early going, 10-5. Addison went on to take 6 out 9 points, led by Brystil Moser leading the defense with her digs and Ava Bartlett and her blocks. With the score 13-11 Curry, the teams alternated scores, as neither team could score more than 2 in a row. With the lead standing at 23-22 Curry, the Lady Jackets stung the Dawgs and took the final two points for the 25-22 win.

The third set started out close as Curry was holding a 6-4 lead when Barrett served for 4 straight points for a Lady Bulldog lead of 8-6. Again, neither team could pull away as no one could get on a roll. With the score at 12-10, the Lady Dawgs took 3 of the final 4 points to come away with a 15-11 win.

West Morgan 2 – Addison 0 (23-25, 23-25)

In a matchup of ranked teams No. 1 in Class 1A Addison and No. 4 in Class 4A West Morgan it was bound to be an excellent game; it did not disappoint. The teams were fairly evenly matched as through the first 14 points, both teams scored 7. This game had several long volleys and the ladies, on both teams, were diving all over the floor. Addison's Johnson got the serve and went off for 6 straight points and it looked like Addison was in control. Addison's defense led by Bartlett was commanding the net. West Morgan then took a timeout and Addison went into a funk. Seven straight Lady Rebel points had the score at 14-13 in their favor. Calie Garrison served Addison to 3 straight points and the lead at 16-14. It continued back and forth until with Addison leading 22-21 was overpowered by the Lady Rebels. Again, the volleys lasted forever in this set and some good volleyball was played by both teams. The Lady Rebels took 4 of the final 5 points for a 25-23 victory.

The second game had West Morgan jump out to a quick 11-5 lead. Addison, after a timeout, refocused and took 7 of the next 10 points to get back in the game at 14-12.

The Lady Dawgs were led by Annabeth Powell's serve. West Morgan went on to take 5 of the next 8 points to stretch their lead to 19-15. Garrison then led the Dawgs to 4 straight points and a tie at 19. Bartlett was a menace to the Lady Rebels on the other side of the net as she hammered the ball for several kills. The score stood at 23-22 Lady Rebels, and they were able to outlast the Lady Bulldogs by alternating points with them to take a hard fought 25-23 win.

Addison Coach Kaydi Woodard,

"I thought that our communication on the court was better tonight and seems to be improving each week. We were playing two quality teams, especially West Morgan and we got the split. I hope we can use this as a learning experience and just improve week to week."

Official stats

- Assists: Annabeth Powell
- Aces: Mattie Johnson 4, Karson Wyatt 2
- Digs: Katie Barrett 29, Brystil Moser 22, Lauryn Cunningham 18
- Kills: Ava Bartlett 20, Cunningham 11, Barrett 9, Johnson 6
- Blocks: Bartlett 9, Johnson 6

Addison will play an area match at Cullman Christian Thursday night.

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PREP VOLLEYBALL

Good Hope drops matches with Danville, Madison County

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. -- The Good Hope Lady Raiders hosted a tri-match against Danville (area) and Madison County Monday night. Good Hope fell to Danville 3-0 in a hard-fought first match and dropped another close one with Madison County in the second match 2-1.

Danville 3 - Good Hope 0 (Game One) (18-25, 19-25, 22-25)

Danville got off to a strong start in the first set, as they jumped out to a quick 9-1 lead. The Lady Hawks stretched their lead to 12-2, but Good Hope scored five straight points to cut it to 12-7. Danville, though, countered by scoring five of the next six points to take a 17-8 lead. Behind a point and a kill by Emma Herring, the Lady Raiders made it an 17-11 game. They continued to cut into the Lady Hawk lead after that, as Chloe Eisner got a kill and a point, Campbell Koch collected an ace, and Carley Adams added a point to cut it to 18-15. A point by Lexi Marshall trimmed it to three at 21-18, but Danville ended up scoring the final four points to take the first set, 25-18.

The second set was closer than the first. A kill by Adams tied things up at three, but Danville broke the tie and ended up grabbing a 6-4 lead. Good Hope got the lead right back at 7-6 on a point by Mattie Wix, but the Lady Hawks went on a 7-1 run to take a 13-8 lead. The Lady Raiders, though, rallied to cut it to 14-13 on a point by Marshall and would later tie it up at 17 on a kill and back-to-back aces by Jolee McHan. Once again, though, Danville closed out the set on another big run, as they ended up taking it 25-19.

Good Hope got out to a quick start in the third set. After trailing 2-1, they scored seven straight points, and that included points from Adams, McHan, and an ace from Caselyn Whatley, as that gave them an 8-2 lead.

Jordan Sanders collected a point to keep the lead at six at 11-5. Danville scored the next five points to cut it to 11-10, and they would later tie things up at 12. The Lady Hawks would later grab a 16-13 lead, but later in the set, a kill by Sanders would help Good Hope take an 18-17 lead.

There would be several ties and lead changes over the next few serves. A point by Eisner gave the Lady Raiders a 21-20 lead, but Danville finished out the set on a 5-1 run to finish off their sweep of Good Hope, 25-18, 25-19 and 25-22.

In the first set, Eisner collected a pair of points and a kill. Herring added a kill and a point, and Koch ended up with an ace in the loss. In the first set, McHan finished with a pair of aces and a kill. Eisner added a kill and a point. Koch collected an ace, and Adams added a kill in the loss.

In the third set, Sanders finished with a pair of kills and a point. Adams collected an ace and a point. Eisner and McHan each added a pair of points, and Whatley ended up with an ace in the loss.

Madison County 2 – Good Hope 1 (25-20, 13-25, 10-15)

Sosa (from Front)

Jennifer Brady
Contributor

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Five University of Alabama students were among those who competed for the Miss University of Alabama 2025 title on Sept. 14, and finished as alternates and earned other awards during the evening.

The Miss University of Alabama Court includes:

- Fourth Alternate - Rylie Dewley, from Grand Blanc, Michigan ($1,100 scholarship) and the Social Media Challenge ($500 scholarship)
- Third Alternate - Abby Sosa, from Cullman ($1,400 scholarship)
- Second Alternate - Imani Muse, from Chicago ($1,700 scholarship)
- First Alternate - Elaina Burt, from Hoover ($2,000 scholarship)

Additional awards given during the Miss UA competition:

- People's Choice: Maddi Heath, from Spanish Fort ($500 scholarship)

The Miss University of Alabama competition is an official preliminary to the Miss Alabama and Miss America competitions and is sponsored by The University of Alabama Alumni Association.

Scores (from Front)

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Bad weather forced two of this week's youth football matchups to be moved from Saturday to Tuesday night. The Vinemont Eagles hosted the Hanceville Bulldogs, and the Cullman Bearcats traveled to take on the Good Hope Raiders.

Hanceville Bulldogs at Vinemont Eagles

- • Fireplug: Bulldogs 28 - Eagles 0
- Wee-Wee: Eagles 20 - Bulldogs 6
- Pee-Wee: Eagles 34 - Bulldogs 0

Cullman Bearcats at Good Hope Raiders

- Fireplug: Raiders 44 - Bearcats 0
- Wee-Wee: Raiders 7 - Bearcats 6 (OT)
- Pee-Wee: Raiders 14 - Bearcats 6 (OT)

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Real Estate at 12 PM (NOON) and then a very rare 1952 Industrial Super A Demonstrator Tractor. We will then continue to sell the personal property lots until all lots are SOLD!
Preview the real estate and personal property items on
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CCBOE talks FY 2025 budget

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Board of Education held its monthly meeting on Thursday, Sept. 12, and discussed the upcoming fiscal year budget. It also proclaimed September Attendance Awareness Month in Cullman County Schools.

First on the agenda was discussion on the budget. The total proposed budget of $118.7 million for the school system was given a nearly $7 million bump from the previous year due to rising enrollment and the needs of the schools to support their students. Most of the system's annual budget is set to cover materials, curriculum, payroll and employee benefits – $993,636 in employee benefits is set aside in the budget, and nearly $1.5 million is earmarked for teacher, faculty and staff salaries.

The budget allows room for new construction projects on the campuses of West Point Schools, the Cullman County Child Development Center, Vinemont High School, Fairview High School, Good Hope Elementary School, Hanceville Middle School and HVAC services for all remaining campuses.

In addition to the increased allocation for salaries, support and system growth, employee insurance matches will stay stagnant at $800 a month with a retirement match increase for both tier one and tier two employees.

At the meeting, the board also proclaimed September Attendance Awareness Month in Cullman County Schools.

"Let me tell you, truancy through the years as a teacher, as a principal and then as an administrator or a superintendent, it's a thorn in your side; ask anyone in education," said Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette. "We can't teach kids if they're not at school."

Barnette explained that one of the tactics the system employs to boost attendance numbers is to immerse the students in clubs, extracurriculars and activities.

"We try very hard to connect every single one of our students to a club, to one another and get them involved in school," he said. "If we do that, I feel like our kids are going to be there."

In other business, the CCBOE:

Approved the following resignations:
- Jacob Russell
- Elijah Page
- Rhonda Wynn

Approved the following leaves of absence:
- Kinley Nunn
- Samantha Barbee
- Amy Brady
- Cameron Baker
- Sonya Adams

Approved the following voluntary transfers:
- Vince Williams
- Melissa McCullar

Approved the following appointments:
- Kaitlinn McKissack
- Noah Page
- Michaelle Basinger

Approved the following substitutes:
- Constance Calvert
- Alan Kerber
- Nicholas Thompson
- Paula Calvert
- Amanda Calvert-Smith
- Paula Cleghorn
- Cassidy Cofer
- Karley Gilliland
- Mollye Graves
- Debra Howard
- Dusten Johnson
- Joyce Lee
- Kayla Looney
- Alicia Powe
- Michelle Ray
- Skye Riggs
- Tina Stansell
- Rebecca Stevens
- Britney Sullins
- Brenda White
- Crystal Williams
- Frankie Basinger
- Ryleigh Jones
- Emma Roberts
- Jessica Gable
- Brittney Guthery
- Tammy Smith
- Karla Speegle
- Kathy Thomason
- Samantha Arbet
- Tina Aspinwall
- Lynn Aston
- Vickie Bannister
- Hannah Bennett
- Raymond Briscoe
- Maci Brown
- Kayley Burden
- Jeri Burks
- Brandy Cantrell
- Katie Cates
- Jackie Chaffin
- Keirston Christy
- Carol Cline
- Michelle Crawford
- Kamilah Drake
- Cessily Earl
- Olivia Fletcher
- Emma Gelless
- Georgia Gorham
- Amber Harris
- Amanda Hayes
- Dakota Hurst
- Joanie Lancaster
- Brianna Laney-Shoemaker
- Crystal Murphree
- Joshua Murphree

Approved the following contract and salary changes:
- Justin Aby
- Crissy Dingler
- Nina Moss
- Angel Carnell
- Donna Drake
- Shelba Edge
- Rebecca Glaze
- Patricia Hutson
- Amanda Reid

Approved the following non-faculty coaches:
- Anthony Auston
- Jason Thomas
- Brandon Black
- Matt Negron
- Keith Day
- Zachary Blakney
- Brandy Lowe
- Joshua Stancil
- Samuel Jones
- Stacy Pesola
- Michael Black
- Mallory Rollo
- Gregory Allred
- Brooke Barnett
- Victoria Stanley
- Morgan Hammock
- Michael Holt
- Brosnan Ward
- Jimmy Fletcher
- Nathan Finley
- Mia Dodson
- Joshua Krittner
- Josh Phillips
- Kolton Sellers
- Kamryn Tankersley
- Jarrod Eubanks
- Mary Shaw
- Bridgett Elrod
- Adrian Adams
- Paige Collett
- Tyler Boland
- Blake McLeod
- Braelee Quinn
- Bruce Fitzgerald
- Dusty Shaddix
- Joshua Shannon
- William Whitesell
- Kevin Folds
- Terry Heaton

Approved the request from Fairview High School to pay Kristy Harris $750 for additional summer hours and responsibilities

Approved request from Fairview High School to pay George Redding $2,200 for maintenance and mowing fields

Approved request from Fairview High School to pay the following coaches for summer workouts:
- Logan Baird- $80
- David Carrell-$300
- Brian Simmons-$1,000
- Mason Black-$600
- Kyle Kugler-$200
- Jonathan Steadman-$40

Approved request from Good Hope Middle School to pay Shelba Edge $200 per cleaning of the gymnasium after middle school volleyball games

Approved request from Hanceville High School to pay Emily Brown $1,200 for 2024-2025 Athletic Director extra duties

Approved request from Holly Pond High School to pay Jeffrey Horton $1,680 for setting up before and cleaning after varsity and middle school basketball games for the 2023-2024 season

Approved request from Vinemont Middle School to pay Ginger Lamon $2,500 for operating school concessions and cleaning for all events during the 2024-2025 school year

Approved request to pay Candice Baty $500 stipend at the end of each semester (total $1,000) for serving as a mentor as required by the ALSDE for TSEC (Temporary Special Education Certificate) mentee support

Approved request to pay Jackie C. Chaffin $20 per hour for assisting in the production of live streaming Cullman County athletic and academic events for the 2024-2025 school year effective Oct. 1, 2024,

Approved request to pay a $5,000 supplement to Pamela Roberson, to be paid over FY25 school year effective Oct. 1, 2024, for Virtual School additional duties

Approved request to pay Rena' Watson a supplement of $1,200 per month effective July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 for additional duties

Approved request to pay RN School Nurses at their hourly rate of pay and LPN School Nurses at their hourly rate of pay or their overtime rate (hours worked over 40) for additional hours as required for any academic and athletic activities for the 2024-2025 school year

Approved 2024-2025 Before-hours Program and Personnel:
West Point Elementary
- Director $30 per hour – Wanda Bennefield Teacher $25 per hour – Freda Coleman

Approved 2024-2025 Afterschool Programs and Personnel:
Fairview Elementary

Directors
$25 per hour
Tacy Haraway

Teachers/Subs
$20 per hour
Jeffrey Greer
Averie Harris
Karen Leeth
Christina Lindsey
Suzaun Shell

Harmony
Lead Teacher
$25 per hour
Jennifer Quick

Teachers/Subs
$22 per hour
Lori Clark
Carla Davis
Destiny Hibbs
Bethany Jones
Heather Jones
Emily Seymore
Madison Sharpe
Elaine Wren
Dacia Wynn

Approved to pay a supplement to the following local school Athletic Directors:
- Adam McKinnon, Cold Springs Elementary (K-8) - $750
- Adam McKinnon, Cold Springs High - $1,500
- Kenneth Griffin, Fairview Middle - $750
- Brian Simmons, Fairview High - $1,500
- Elizabeth Taylor, Good Hope Middle - $750 Scott Adams, Good Hope High - $1,500
- Brent Barnett, Hanceville Middle - $750
- Emily Brown, Hanceville High - $1,500
- Taylor Appling, Harmony - $500
- Daniel Weaver, Holly Pond K-8 - $750
- James Brett Neal, Holly Pond High - $1,500 David Martin, Parkside - $500
- Michael Willliams, Vinemont Middle - $750
- Roy Todd Johnson, Vinemont High - $1,500 Joshua Davis, West Point Middle - $750 Shannon Anderson, West Point High - $1,500

Approved the 2024-2025 Academic Coaching Supplements and Assignments
- Michael Willliams, Vinemont Middle - $750 Roy Todd Johnson, Vinemont High - $1,500 Joshua Davis, West Point Middle - $750 Shannon Anderson, West Point High - $1,500

Approved the 2024-2025 Academic Coaching Supplements and Assignments

Approved the 2024-2025 Athletic Coaching Supplements and Assignments

Approved July 2024 Financial Statements

Approved July 2024 Bills and Salaries

Approved request for the proposed 2025-2029 Capital Plan Minutes and Plan as proposed

Approved out-of-State Field Trip Request from West Point High School on Sept. 28, 2024, to Tusculum, TN for a Scholars Bowl Tournament

Authorized the Superintendent to submit application for various programs for the 2024-2025 school year including:
- Title I- Part A School Wide Program Funds
- Title II-Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III- Language Instruction for Limited English Proficiency Title IV- Prevention and Support
- At-Risk
- Any other Federal, State and Grant Funds that the Superintendent deems necessary and possible to obtain

The next meeting of the CCBOE will be on Thursday, Oct. 17, with the work session beginning at 3:30 p.m and the meeting immediately following.

Cullman County Commission discusses remodel, 2025 budget

Cheyenne Sharp
cheyenne@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — During the work session preceding the Tuesday, Sept. 17, meeting of the Cullman County Commission, Facilities and Equipment Manager Shane Bailey updated the commission on the remodel of the its wing of the Cullman County Courthouse.

Currently, the commission meeting room contains the offices of Cullman County Commissioner Corey Freeman and Cullman County Attorney Emily Niezer-Johnston. The proposed plan will see the wall that joins the offices to the meeting room demolished and the rooms combined, creating more room for the commission's meetings and business that takes place in the meeting room.

"We hope to take these walls down to make this a nicer presentation room for everyone," Bailey stated.

When asked about a potential timeline for the project by Chairman Jeff Clemons, Bailey shared, "He said they could come in the morning after a commission meeting and be done before the next one (commission meeting)."

While still in the process of obtaining bids for the meeting room project, Bailey noted, the timeline for the demolition and construction could be 30 days or less.

The commission discussed the 2025 FY budget at the meeting, noting that in 2025, the road department budget will shrink due to the loss of American Rescue Plan Act funds, which were allotted to the department in 2024.

Cullman County Administrator John Bullard spoke to the commissioners and said, "Around June, we start predicting revenues for the next year. The first thing you'll notice is that our revenues have grown but not at the rate they've grown the past couple of years."

Bullard said the likely reason for the slow growth is the decrease in sales tax revenue after the pandemic and a decrease in property taxes in 2024.

The new proposed budget includes an increase in pay across the board for Cullman County staff of 4.14%; 3.14% of that amount is a raise on the starting pay scale, while 1% is designated as a cost of living increase.

The Commission passed the FY 2025 Budget Plan.

In other business the commission:
- Recognized the Cullman County 4-H Wildlife Team for winning the State Competition in the Wildlife Habitat Education Program
- Recognized Jana Shelton retiring after 22 years of service with the Revenue Department
- Recognized Tara Jennings retiring after 28 years of service with the Reappraisal Department
- Proclaimed Oct. Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Cullman County
- Approved Resolution 2024-40: CARTS Third Party Service Contract for FY 2025 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork
- Approved Resolution 2024-41: The Cullman County Commission adopts the procedures for accepting Public Records Request to comply with the Alabama's Open Records Act, as amended by Ala. No. 2024-278
- Approved Resolution 2024-42: The Cullman County Commission designates the County Clerk to serve as the Public Officer of Cullman County to carry out the directives of the Open Records Act as amended by Act No. 2024-278
- Approved Resolution 2024-43: Change speed limit to 20 mph on County Road 668
- Approved Resolution 2024-44: Authorize Cullman County Commission to submit a formal amendment request to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs amending the final project for the replacement of the culvert on County Road 222
- Approved Resolution 2024-45: Authorize Cullman County Commission to apply for state and federal funds for airport improvement projects for the Cullman Regional Airport for FY 2025 and authorize Chairman to sign all related paperwork
- Approved Resolution 2024-46:Authorize Cullman County Commission to apply for a Safe Streets (SS4A) Planning Grant and authorize the Chairman to sign all related paperwork
- Approved Resolution 2024-47: Authorize the Chairman to Ratify the execution of the application for Safe Streets for all (SS4A) planning funds to develop a strategic plan to address road safety on roadways located in Cullman County
- Authorized Chairman to sign Alabama Department of Youth Services Long Term Detention Subsidy Contract for the period of Oct. 1, 2024-Sept. 30, 2025
- Authorized the annual payment to the ACCA Worker's Compensation Fund on Oct. 1, 2024, for worker's comp insurance for 10/1/2024-10/1/2025 in the amount of $440,281.69
- Authorized Chairman to sign agreement between Cullman County Commission and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management for the collection, management, disposal and or offering for beneficial use of discarded tires and regulated solid waste funded by the Scrap Tire Fund
- Ratified purchase of a 12.5 kilowatt generator for EMA from Kimbrough Automotive and RV Repair in the amount of $12,500. Funds from AMAS Grant
- Ratified Work Order for brick cleaning from Matthew Cole with Lightning and Sons Brick Cleaning for the Cullman County Sheriff's Office in the amount of $17,800
- Approved the renewal of employee and retiree health insurance enrollment agreements with Blue Cross Blue Sheild of Alabama. Cullman maintains a self-insured policy that is administered by Blue Cross. Renewal to be effective Oct. 1, 2024. Plan changes to be effective Jan. 1, 2025
- Approved changes to the Cullman County Commission Employee Handbook to be effective Oct. 1, 2024. These changes will be distributed to County employees via e-mail, posting on departmental bulletin boards and posting on the County Personnel Webpage
- Approved updated Juvenile Detention Agreement with Cullman County Partnership for Children in the amount of $130,000 per year
- Authorized Cullman Caring for Kids to use the Cullman County Board of Education parking lot to host a car show on Nov. 9, 2024, from 7 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Approved the purchase of a heat pump split system from Plus One Heating and Air for the Cullman County Board of Education in the amount of $11,300
- Approved Commission's nominee, Kenneth Cornelius, for appointment to the Cullman County Tourism Bureau to replace Britney Herron
- Approved Southern Health Partners Agreement for Fiscal year 2025 for Inmate Medical Care in the amount of $800,486.64
- Approved a Lease, Construction and Maintenance Agreement with the State of Alabama through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the Smith Lake Park boat ramp and Lion's Park Boat Ramp
- Approved the surplus of the following items from Parks to be auctioned on Gov Deals or by any means necessary
  - o 2005 Monaco Coach travel trailer
  - o 1994 Humvee
  - o 1998 Humvee
  - o 1988 Humvee
  - o 2000 GMC Silverado
- Approved the surplus of a 2009 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado from the Cullman County Garage to be auctioned on Gov Deals or by any means necessary
- Approved the surplus of the following items from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office to be auctioned on Gov Deals or by any means necessary:
  - o 2022 GMC Sierra 2500 HD
  - o 2022 GMC Sierra 2500 HD
- Approved to extend Bid #1446: Placement of Surface Treatments to Wiregrass Construction Company, Inc
- Approved to extend Bid # 1447: Cold Laid Plant Mix to Wiregrass Construction Company, Inc
- Approved to extend Bid # 1448: Fog &Scrub Seal to Ergon, Inc
- Approved proposed Bond Release for Stillhouse Point Subdivision. This bond was approved in Oct. 2016. The subdivision is located in Commission District Four on county road 2102 and County Road 2103 in the Cold Springs area. All construction has been completed and has passed final inspection.
- Approved bond extension for Kingfisher Subdivision Phase 1C, located in Commission District One on the corner of Highway 278 and County Road 1616
- Approved proposed plat and resubdivide Willow Grove Subdivision, a major subdivision containing three lots in Commission District Three.
- Approved to reject Bid # 1469: for one new or used Book Mobile current model transit cargo van to Mercedes-Benz of Huntsville

The next commission meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 17, with the work session at 4 p.m. and the meeting following at 6.





Home (from Front)

to leave, we noticed the giant hole in the front of the house."

After successfully dropping their children off at a safe place, the couple was able to assess the damage to their home.

Winstead said the strike hit the home in the attic and traveled through the home's electrical system. Thermostats and the home's air conditioning unit were critically damaged, so much so that the strike to the home was the instigating factor in the blown transformer.

"We don't know the extent of electrical damage because insurance is so backed up they haven't gotten to us yet, but we can't live there," she said.

The family is currently waiting for estimates associated with repairing their home.

At the very least, the home will need a new roof and new air conditioning unit; family and friends have created a Meal Train to support the family. Donations can be made directly to the Winsteads by using Venmo (Jenna-Hudson-26), Cash App ($jhudson2020), PayPal (Jenna.hudson30@gmail.com) or by signing up online at www.mealtrain.com/trains/ed8eql?.

Oktoberfest (from Front)

and lively music to traditional games and crafts, there is something here for everyone."

This year, the Bavarian blowout begins Thursday, Oct. 3, at the Festhalle with the ceremonial tapping of the keg by 2024 Burgermeister Amy McAfee Wood. Wood will open the ceremony by swinging a custom-made mallet her late father, Danny McAfee, crafted for the event. The Festhalle and Depot Park area will act as the festival's stage.

Organized by Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism (CPRST), Oktoberfest sees vendors, volunteers, businesses and organizations work together to make the event a success.

Said CPRST Executive Director Nathan Anderson, "The success of the Cullman Oktoberfest is a true testament to the creativity, hard work and dedication of our incredible team and committed volunteers. We couldn't do this without the invaluable support of numerous City departments, the mayor and council, park board, our dedicated vendors and our generous sponsors."

In addition to familiar vendors and makers, for the first time, Oktoberfest will host two authentic Biergartens, along with a community dining area with flowing taps of authentic German ale. The Hofbräuhaus Biergarten and Goat Island Biergarten are each designed to allow guests to taste a variety of German beers while taking in the traditional and contemporary tunes of Germany with live musical performances held throughout the affair.

This year, festivalgoers can learn about Cullman's German heritage through engaging cultural exhibits, including a new one at the Cullman County Museum, showcasing the stepping stones that created the culture present today.

Festival Coordinator Kelly Pulliam said, "We are thrilled to introduce our best lineup of attractions yet, including the addition of our third biergarten presented by Goat Island Brew(ing), a giant Ferris wheel and an enhanced opening ceremony. We're also excited about the museum's new Oktoberfest exhibit, which will educate visitors on the many traditions celebrated in Cullman that are straight out of Munich."

Thursday, Oct. 3
- 4-10 p.m. Hofbräuhaus Biergarten, Goat Island Community Biergarten and Kids' Zone
- 6 p.m. Oktoberfest Parade
- 6:30 p.m. Opening ceremony with the tapping of the keg and crowning of Miss Oktoberfest, street entertainers and live German music
- 7 p.m. Brat Eating Contest for attendees 16 and older and the Historic Cullman Candlelight Walking Tour
- 7:30 p.m. Adult and children's costume contest
- 8 p.m. Stein Hoisting Contest for attendees 21 and older
- 9-10 p.m. Dueling Pianos at Hofbräuhaus

Friday, Oct. 4
- 10 a.m. Senior Day
- 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Vendor Market
- 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Kids' Zone
- 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Goat Island Community Biergarten
- 2-11 p.m. Hofbräuhaus Biergarten
- 6 p.m. Children's contests begin, including Best Costume, Stein Hoisting and Pretzel Eating
- 7 p.m. Brat Eating Contest for attendees 21 and older
- 8 p.m. Stein Hoisting and Costume Contest for guests 21 and older
- 9-11 p.m. Dueling Pianos at Hofbräuhaus

Saturday, Oct. 5
- 8 a.m. Oktoberfest 5K and Oktoberfest 10K
- 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Hofbräuhaus Biergarten, Goat Island Community Biergarten, along with bingo and food at Sacred Heart School; bingo ending at 7 p.m.
- 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Vendor Market
- 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Kids' Zone
- 10 a.m Cullman Community Band performs
- 11 a.m. OktoFURfest activities commence, including the Weiner Dog Race, Costume Contest and Parade
- Noon-2 p.m. Open House and history presentation at First German Church of Cullman, located at Seventh Street Baptist Church
- 3 p.m. Brat Eating Contest for attendees 16 and older
- 4:30 p.m. Kids' contests including Best Costume, Stein Hoisting and Pretzel Eating
- 8 p.m. Stein Hoisting and Costume Contest for attendees 21 and older
- 9-10 p.m. Dueling Pianos at Hofbräuhaus

Get more info at www.cullmanoktoberfestival.com.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on October 21, 2024, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time, anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-23 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak. - Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 – 23

AMENDING THE CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, TO RE-ZONE CERTAIN PARCELS OF PROPERTY AS SET FORTH HEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Under the authority of Chapter 52, Articles 1 through 4, Section 11-52-1 through Section 11-52-84, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, and specifically Sections 11-52-77 and at the request of property owners, the petitioners, the following describe the tracts or parcels of land, to-wit:

Property Owner: Richard and Evelyn Dahlke. Property Address: 916 Parker Ave SW.

Legal Description: Lot No. 12 and No. 13 in Block 34 of Musgrove's Second Addition to the Town of Cullman, Alabama, as shown on recorded map or plat, between Parker Avenue and Veigl Avenue. Also, the West Half of Lot No. 14 in Block 34 of Musgrove's Second Addition to the Town of Cullman, Alabama, as shown on the recorded map or plat, between Parker Avenue and Veigl Avenue, commencing at the Northwest corner of Lot No. 14, thence South along the East margin of Parker Avenue a distance of 260 feet, thence East along the South margin of Lot No. 14 a distance of 210 feet, thence North and parallel to Parker Avenue a distance of 260 feet to the North boundary of Lot No. 14, thence West 210 feet to the point of beginning as shown on the plat recorded Book 2008, Page 28, in the office of the Cullman County Probate Judge.

within the city limits of Cullman, Alabama, and lying and being in Cullman County, State of Alabama, designated as Residential District R-3 on the Zoning Map of the City of Cullman, Alabama under Ordinance No. 2004-03 and as may be reflected in any comprehensive master plan for the City of Cullman, Alabama, be, and is hereby changed from R-3 Residential District to R-2 Residential District.

SECTION 2. That this ordinance be published at least once a week for two consecutive weeks in advance of its final passage in a newspaper with general circulation within the City of Cullman, Alabama, the first publication of said notice and ordinance being verbatim and the second publication either verbatim or synopsized, with the last publication being at least 15 days prior to the date set for public hearing and passage of said ordinance.

SECTION 3. That a public hearing be held relative to the passage of this ordinance on the 21st day of October, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., at which time interested parties and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and any changes relating thereto.

SECTION 4. That all notices as required by law be given by the City Clerk concerning said public hearing, and in addition thereto, a certified letter be sent by the Clerk to all contiguous property owners at their last known addresses as shown by the tax records for the City of Cullman, Alabama.

SECTION 5. That upon final passage of this ordinance, all zoning maps, master comprehensive plans or any other documents of the City of Cullman, Alabama, in conflict with this ordinance are hereby changed and amended to reflect the changes and amendments herein.

SECTION 6. Should any part or portion of this ordinance be held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, for whatever reason, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect any other part or portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage or adoption as required by law, including notice, publication and public hearing, all in accordance with Section 11-52-1, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

Submitted by Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80, as per Legislative Act 2015-470:

2005 Ford F-150, Vin:1FTRX12W75NB62826
2011 Honda CR-V, Vin:5J6RE3H74BL040525
2005 Toyota Corolla, Vin.2T1BR32EX5C460613
2007 Ford Mustang, Vin:1ZVFT84N875260873
2005 Chevrolet Tahoe, Vin:1GNEK13TX5R145665

These vehicles will be sold on November 1, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. for towing/storage fees if not claimed. Located at Hammock Auto Sales, 17 County Road 406, Cullman, Alabama 35057, 256-775-3754.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
LEWIS NATE TERRY, * CASE NO. PC2022-053
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL, AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL and AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: **CHARLCIE HENSLEY, LAURIE POUNDERS, JOSEPH TERRY, J.H. TERRY, DEBBIE SHEPARD, BEVERLY BELL, AND ELVIE PROCTOR, AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES.**

Petition for Probate of Will, Amended Petition for Probate of Will and Amended Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Lewis Nate Terry, Deceased, filed by Alvin Terry, Petitioner, through Attorney Melvin Hasting. A hearing on this matter has been rescheduled for the **20th day of November, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama

All Persons are hereby given notice to appear, and contest said petition if they think proper.

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

DONE this the 16th day of September, 2024.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
JAMES MICHAEL OZIER, * CASE NO. PC2024-307
Deceased. *

Case# PC2024-307
PB WIL Book 126 Page 235
Recorded in Above Book and Page
09/17/2024 1:50PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL (SELF-PROVED WILL)

TO: JOHN K. OZIER, JENNIFER O. RUDULPH, JOAN OZIER SMITH AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF JAMES MICHAEL OZIER, DECEASED.

Petition for Probate of Will (Self-Proved Will) filed by Anita Jane Downs, Petitioner, by and through Attorney, Steven C. Smith. A hearing has been scheduled on this matter for the **20th day of November, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

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

Done this the 16th day of September, 2024.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2024-021

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF TYLER CORLEY MORGAN and ALLISON BROOKE MORGAN TO ADOPT C.E.C. a minor child.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: **TO ANY UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED FATHER OF C.E.C. WHOSE IDENTITY, WHEREABOUTS, RESIDENCE AND/OR ADDRESS IS UNKNOWN OR UNDISCLOSED.**

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of C.E.C. a minor child (born on April 10, 2024, to Carol Jean Crews) was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Tyler Corley Morgan and Allison Brooke Morgan, Petitioners. Please be advised should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 28th DAY OF August, 2024.

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

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Clint L. Maze
Wilmer & Lee, P.A.
Attorney for Petitioners
725 North Brindlee Mountain Parkway
Arab, Alabama 35016

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
CHARLES J. MCCABE, * CASE NO.: PC 2023-345
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Deborah Ann McCabe Stam, Personal Representative of the Estate of Charles J. McCabe., deceased, on the 18th day of September, 2024, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Deborah Ann McCabe Stam
Personal Representative

Charles L. Anderson
Anderson, Williams & Farrow, LLC
7515 Halcyon Pointe Drive
Montgomery, Alabama 36117

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
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE,
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:)
B.J.H.) CASE NO. JU 2023-106.02
A Minor Child, 08/04/2009)

NOTICE

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the mother of B.J.H. born on or about 08/04/2009, respond to the Petition by the 24th day of October, 2024, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: J. Bradley Wilson, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 10th day of September 2024

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

FILED IN OFFICE
SEP 10 2024
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 10th day of September, 2024.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE:)
B.J.H.) CASE NO. JU 2023-106.02
A Minor Child, 08/04/2009)

NOTICE

The Petitioner having made a Motion for Service by Publication in the above styled action, it is

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the father of B.J.H. born to Denise Haynes on or about 08/04/2009, respond to the Petition by the 24th day of October, 2024, or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioner.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioner: J. Bradley Wilson, 206 Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, (256) 737-0740 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 10th day of September, 2024

WELLS R. TURNER, III
JUVENILE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

FILED IN OFFICE
SEP 10 2024
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit Court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 10th day of September, 2024.
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

ESTATE OF) CASE NO. PC 2024-253
PAMELA R. KEY, DECEASED,) **PROBATE COURT**

Letters of Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **DONDI SHARPTON,** on the 9th day of September, 2024, 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.

Dondi Sharpton
DONDI SHARPTON
Personal Representative

Billy W. Jackson
BILLY W. JACKSON
Attorney for the Estate of PAMELA R. KEY, Deceased
JACKSON & WILLIAMS
416 1st Ave., SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-739-2546
bjackson@jacksonwilliams.org

To: _____
Publisher of THE CULLMAN TIMES

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

Tammy Brown
Hon. Tammy Brown, Probate Judge

Monster Truck Wars roars into Cullman Sept. 28-29

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center is gearing up for an action-packed weekend with the highly anticipated Monster Truck Wars, happening Sept. 28-29. This family friendly event will feature three giant shows, showcasing world-famous monster trucks, jaw-dropping stunts and a chance to ride in a real monster truck.

Spectators will be treated to a superstar lineup of national TV monster trucks, including fan favorites like Outlaw, the all-new Shark Attack and the debut of T-Rex, along with Sheriff from Tombstone, Arizona. The event will also feature Quad Wars, where professional riders will race for cash prizes, and the Kids' Power Wheel Races, which will allow children ages three to nine to participate in the show.

Families can also enjoy a pre-show Meet & Greet Pit Parties, where kids can get up close to the massive trucks and enjoy a bounce house in the Kids' Fun Zone. The Sergeant Smash Monster Truck Ride will also be available, offering attendees the chance to experience riding in a real monster truck.

On Saturday, Sept. 28, Monster Truck Wars will feature two exciting shows for the public. The matinee show begins at noon, with gates opening at 10 a.m. The Pre-show Meet & Greet Pit Party runs from 10:30-11:30, and admission is just $5, or free with VIP tickets. The main show will end around 1:30 p.m., with an autograph session afterward. The evening show kicks off at 6, with gates opening at 4, and another Pit Party from 4:30-5:30. The show wraps up at approximately 7:30, followed by a driver autograph session.

On Sunday, Sept. 29, there will be a 1 p.m. matinee show. Gates open at 11 a.m., and the Pit Party runs from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The show will conclude around 2:30, with a final autograph session for fans.

Advance child tickets are only $10 (limited supply), and VIP tickets with special perks are also available. Tickets can be purchased online at https://monstertrucks.fun or at the gate (subject to availability). Ticket prices are higher at the gate on the day of the show and will be cash only.

For more detailed information, including ticket prices and event updates, visit https://monstertrucks.fun. Further details can be found on the Monster Truck Wars Facebook page. The Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center is located at 17645 U.S. Highway 31, Cullman, AL 35058.

Cruise In & Car Show to benefit Blakney family after devastating fire

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The upcoming Cruise In & Car Show benefiting the Blakney family will be held on Sept. 21, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Baileyton Drag Strip. This event is organized to raise funds for Zak Blakney, assistant baseball coach at Fairview High School, and his family, who recently lost their home and belongings in a devastating house fire. The entry fee for cars in the show is $30, and food trucks will be on-site to serve attendees.

On Sept. 7, Blakney and his family lost nearly everything to fire, smoke and water damage. A GoFundMe page has been created to assist the family with immediate needs such as clothing, shoes, basic necessities and toys for their children.

"Zak and Brooke are hard workers in our community and love their family so much. They spend their days taking care of others and taking care of their little family. Let's rally around them and help them rebuild their lives," reads a statement from the GoFundMe page. For those who cannot attend the car show but still wish to help, donations can be made via the GoFundMe page at www.gofundme.com/f/help-the-blakney-family or via Venmo at https://venmo.com/u/Aggie-Baseball-Academy. A scannable QR code is also available on the event flyer. Everyone is encouraged to attend and show support for the Blakney family. The Baileyton Drag Strip is located at 1582 Summit Road, Baileyton, AL, 35019.

Picasso (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Picasso, The Cullman Tribune's Pet of the Week, is a 1-year-old Catahoula Leopard Dog seeking out the perfect person or people to be his family. This majestic lovable pooch is low-energy companion.

He is unassuming fellow who enjoys everyone and every creature he's been exposed to. He does well with children and cats.

Picasso relies on your encouraging words during his adventures out with you. He is a true thinker as he does not approach a situation in haste.

Picasso epitomizes the perfect companion, whether hiking or relaxing on the couch. Don't miss out on this masterpiece! Are you ready to meet Picasso? Head over to Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for a meet and greet.

His adoption fee includes neuter, DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

And don't worry! If you arrive and Picasso has been adopted, many of his friends are there waiting for their forever homes, too!

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

Obituary Announcements: Sept. 17-18

Grady Llyod Evans Jr., 62
Grady Lloyd Evans Jr., age 62 of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Friday, Sept. 6, 2024, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. He was born Monday, Dec. 18, 1961, in Dearborn, Michigan, to Grady Lloyd Evans Sr., and Myra Nita Van Evans. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Joni Evans. Survivors include his wife Sonya Evans, sons Grady (Kathy) Evans, granddaughter Hazel Myra Evans, Jayke (Abigail) Evans, grandson Waylon Evans, sisters Sheila (Jeff) Mullins and Sandra Murty. A host of nieces and nephews, and extended family and friends which include: Jason (Heather) Zachary, Kaden and Steven Zachary, Anthony (Chantell) Garcia, AJ Garcia, and Errick Tretter. Ivan Ray (Sharee) Collins Jr., Emillia and Linux Collins, Cameron Collins, TyLyn and Tatum Collins, Brenleigh Collins, and Molly Ray Collins, and Justice Collins, Tanya Mentzer and Jacob Mentzer, Zaeden Mentzer and Maliyah Mentzer and Tristan Johnson. Hunter (Rachel) Collins and Stephanie Renee Collins. Mother-in-Law and Father-in-Laws: Donna and William Robert Sims Jr. and Wanda and Ivan Ray Collins Sr. Memorial Services will be at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Saturday, Sept. 22, 2024, at 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Celebration of Life will be announced at a later time.

Daniel Preuss Donahue, 75
We lovingly remember Daniel Preuss Donahue, who passed away on Sept. 4, 2024, at the age of 75. Born on Feb. 3, 1949, in New Orleans, Louisana, to Daniel Donahue and Marylin Donahue (Adams). Daniel lived a fulfilling life enriched by love, family, sports, and many achievements. He touched countless lives and will be deeply missed by his family and friends. Affectionately called "Danny" by those close to him, he was a modest and humble man despite his many accomplishments. Danny attended private schools in New Orleans, including St. Agnes, Christian Brothers, and De La Salle High School. In 1965, transferring from New Orleans, Louisiana, to Memphis, TN in his junior year, Dan was quickly recognized as one of Central High Schools most outstanding students, "All-Memphis", "All-Division," and "All-Tournament" in both the District and Regional basketball tournaments were some of the awards given to Dan. His letter in basketball entitled Dan to become a member of the "H" Club. Dan was inducted into the National Honor Society and was President of the Homeroom Presidents' Club. After being elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senior Class, Dan headed the Project Committee and the Courtesy Committee. Because of his athletic ability, scholastic achievement, and service to the school, Daniel Donahue was worthy of being chosen "Outstanding Senior." After High School, Dan was offered basketball scholarships from numerous colleges, choosing Christian Brothers College in Memphis before transferring to Memphis State University. He explored a wide range of studies, including education, social work, sports, and business administration, graduating in the 1970s with a Bachelor of Arts degree. His commitment to learning continued throughout his life. After college, Danny devoted himself to helping children, working as a live-in counselor at St. Peter's Orphanage and later as a social worker for DHS. He also pursued his passion for golf, serving as a golf pro at Stonebridge Country Club. During this period, Danny tried entrepreneurship, co-founding a typesetting business. Though it ultimately didn't succeed, Danny's resilience shone through, as he worked multiple jobs to recover, driving an old car and living frugally. Throughout his career, Danny contributed to numerous organizations with dedication and hard work. He spent over 10 years at Evans Enterprises, where he earned an Affiliate Broker's License in Commercial Real Estate. He later joined Towery Publishing, where he excelled in management and was named Employee of the Year in 1996. In his later years, Danny worked from home as a Systems Analyst and Computer Database Programmer for United Health Care/Optum Health, achieving his dream of a balanced professional and personal life. His personal life was just as full, with volunteer work for Memphis in May and BBQ on the River, playing team sports, and coaching girls' basketball at Lindenwood Christian Church. Daniel volunteered with Mercy Chefs, a faith-based non-profit organization, to help provide meals to those affected by disasters. In 2022 Danny moved to Cullman, AL to be closer to his sister, Catherine and family. Danny's generous spirit, kindness, and selflessness touched everyone he met. He consistently put others' needs above his own, and his legacy of love and kindness will forever be cherished by those who knew him. Daniel never married, but he cherished his cats, whom he considered his children. Though most of them passed before him, his beloved cat Abbey remains as his sole surviving "fur baby." Preceding Daniel in death were his dear parents, Daniel Donahue and Marilyn Donahue (Adams), who were residents of Memphis, TN. Survived by his younger sister, Catherine Stewart of Cullman, Alabama; his younger brother, Richard Donahue of Pierre, South Dakota; five nephews: James Stark of Pell City, Alabama, Patrick Stark of Cullman, Alabama, Jon Stark of Cullman, Alabama, Kenneth Donahue of Broomfield, Colorado, and Brian Donahue of Pierre, South Dakota; one niece, Mary Cox (Josh) of Mt. Juliet, Tennesee; one first cousin, Connee Anderson (Tom) of Elizabeth City, North Carolina and several great-nephews and nieces who adored him. In accordance with his wishes, there will be no formal services. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Humane Society of Memphis and Shelby County or any animal rescue organization of your choice.

Casey Lane Goodwin, 54
A memorial gathering for Casey Lane Goodwin, 54, of Dixon Springs, Tennessee, will be held from noon until 2 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20, at Hanceville Funeral Home. Casey was a 1988 graduate of Hanceville High School. He worked in construction for many years specializing in plumbing. His work eventually led him to Tennessee where he was most recently employed by Cerris. Casey was affectionately known by many as "The Caseman". He loved adventure and spent many hours kayaking, riding motorcycles, repelling, and even skydiving. He was a college football fan and pulled for the Auburn Tigers. He had a passion for music and played guitar in several different bands over the years. He cared for animals and had many pets throughout his life, several being rescues. However, his greatest loves were his two daughters, Savannah and Emma. He was a devoted father and never failed to let them know just how much they meant to him. Casey will be greatly missed. If he were able to say one final goodbye, he would likely tell us all to "Keep on Rockin' in the Free World". Mr. Goodwin is survived by his daughters, Savannah Ezell (Cameron), Emma Goodwin (Everett), mother, Dee Addison; father and step-mother, Miles and Judy Goodwin; brothers, Jeff Goodwin (Chris), Randy Goodwin (Susan); step siblings, Paul Sharp, Kim Owens (Keith); close friends, Tim Defore; lifelong best friend, Corey Weldon; and a host of extended family members and friends. Mr. Goodwin was preceded in death by his grandparents, Will and Irene Addison, and Miles and Dot Goodwin.

Spurgeon Henry Jochum, 82
Funeral services for Spurgeon Henry Jochum, (Silver Spur) 82 of Cullman, Alabama, will be Sept. 19, with a visitation from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; followed by a Graveside Service at 3:30 p.m. at Cullman Memory Gardens. Spurgeon went to meet his Lord on Sept. 16, 2024. Spurgeon was born to Willie and Evolena Jochum and was raised in Cullman County. He is preceded in death by his parents and sister, Essie Clara Ellis. Spurgeon worked on the family farm where he milked cows and farmed as a young man and started driving an 18-wheeler and drove for 28 years. He loved taking care of his cows and watching them grow. Survivors include his wife of 25 years Marie Jochum, five children; Ladana Hampton, Patti Jochum Rosson, Amanda Gargus, Ross (April) Jochum, and Chris (Trish) Cobb. He was a proud grandpa/pawpaw to 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Michael 'Pickel' Joe Hitt, 73
Michael "Pickel" Joe Hitt, age 73 of Hanceville, Alabama, passed away on Monday, Sept. 16, 2024. Pickel was born in Bessemer, Alabama on April 26, 1951, to Billy Joe and Mattie Carolyn Honeycutt Hitt. He is preceded in death by his father and a nephew: Kelley Wayne Waters. Funeral services will be on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, at noon at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Joe Mitchell officiating. Interment will follow services in Mt. Tabor Cemetery in Blountsville Alabama. Survivors are: son: Michael Kevin Hitt, mother: Mattie Carolyn Hitt, sister: Brenda Kay (Randy) Waters, grandchildren: Harley Joe Hitt Shoemaker, Michael Tanner Hitt, Kason Zain Hitt, 3 great grandchildren, nieces: Kimberly Ann Waters, Kari Michelle Waters, great nephew: Bryson Jessie Chatman. Visitation will be on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, from 10 a.m. until service time at noon at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel. Please share condolence and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Gerald Lamar Bentley, 81
Gerald Lamar Bentley, 81, of Moulton, Alabama passed away Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, at his home surrounded by his family. Visitation will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024, at Lawrence Funeral Home and again at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024. The funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. on Sunday, at the funeral home with Bro. Forrest Smith, Bro. Larry Dyar, and Bro. William McClellan officiating. Burial will be at Moulton Memory Gardens. Born in Cullman County on Aug. 22, 1943, to the late Tommy and Pauline Tillman Bentley, Gerald was a 1961 graduate of Fairview High School. He then graduated in 1965 from Florence State (now UNA) with a BS degree and in 1979 he earned his Master's degree from UNA. Gerald was involved with the AEA, NEA, AERA, LCERA, UNA Alumni, Fairview Alumni, and Friends of the Library. He was also a member and deacon of Corinth Missionary Baptist Church. Gerald enjoyed word puzzles, calligraphy, playing piano, singing, writing poems, juggling, sports (especially ping pong and horse shoes), but most of all spending time with his family. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Beverly Smith Bentley; children, Amy (Mike) Hulsey, and Grant (Holly) Bentley; grandchildren, Caden Carter, and Cohen Carter; sister, Jo Ann (Willie) Smith; brother-in-law, Darrell Bates; sister-in-law, Vickie Bentley Smith; and a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family. Gerald was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Betty (Herbert) Makemson, and Linda Bates; brother, Mike Bentley; father and mother-in-law, Reuben and Kylie Smith, sister-in-law, Linda Smith, and nephew, Doug Hamm. Pallbearers will be Don Smith, Ron Smith, Chuck Winton, Joe Claborn, Danny Smith, Willie Smith, Dwight Mason, Eddie Sivils, Leon Bentley, Charlie Winton, Shane Smith, Forrest Smith, Jody Claborn, Tony Nobinger, Mike Hulsey, Caden Carter, Cohen Carter, Dale Walker, and Allen Early. The family extends special thanks to Amedisys Hospice, Holly Bentley and Jan Smith for their excellent and loving care. Visit www.bradfordlawrencefh.com to leave online condolences and order flowers.

Melissa Riopka Crowe, 48
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Melissa Riopka Crowe, 48, of Huntsville. Melissa passed away on Saturday, Sept. 14, at UAB Hospital in Birmingham. In July 2023, Melissa was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and fought a prolonged battle with complications after a bone marrow transplant. Melissa is survived by her spouse Jonathan Crowe, son, Sam, daughter, Faith, grandmother, Paula Riopka, brother John Riopka , and sister Ashlee Riopka. She was preceded in death by her father Frank Riopka, and grandfather Sam Riopka. Melissa grew up in Cullman, Alabama where she was raised by her grandparents Paula and Sam Riopka. Melissa graduated from Cullman High School in 1994. She attended the University of Alabama and graduated in 1998 with a degree in Communication. After graduation she worked as a reporter and anchor at TV stations in Chattanooga and Birmingham. She began working in Huntsville television in 2010 at WAAY and started at WHNT in 2013. She later joined Jerry Hayes and Greg Screws as a weeknight anchor. In 2018 she moved to the morning newscast and anchored with Steve Johnson and Meteorologist Ben Smith. Melissa left television news in 2022 and went to work for the city of Huntsville. No matter where Melissa worked during her career her colleagues would remark about her sense of humor, her determination, her dedication, her work ethic, her willingness to help co-workers and her kindness to everyone. Mrs. Crowe's family will receive friends at Berryhill Funeral Home on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. A memorial service will immediately follow in the Chapel at 4 p.m. with Pastor John Mullaney officiating.

David Leddell Davis Jr., 63
David Leddell Davis Jr., age 63, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on Sept. 15, 2024. David spent his life on his cattle farm with his beloved wife of 36 years, Cindy Davis. Over the course of 40 years, he was a passionate bluegrass singer and a key member of David Davis and the Warrior River Boys. In addition, David served his community working with the Morgan County Schools system for 24 years. David was preceded in death by his Parents Lucille and Leddel Davis, cousin, Bryon Whitten. David is survived by his wife Cindy Davis, aunt Avnel Nail, niece Stephanie (Taylor) Morrow, great nephew and niece Coleman & Scarlett Morrow, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. Visitation for David will be held on Sept. 20, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home located at 1901 Second Avenue NW, 35055. In addition, David will lie in state from 9 a.m. until the service time at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21. Interment to follow at Etha Cemetery located at 8417 County Road 1545, 35058. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Barbar Jester Laney, 79
Funeral service for Barbara Jester Laney, age 79 of Cullman, is Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, at 12 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home chapel. Officiating the service will be Rev. Steve Rodgers, obituary reading by Ty Watwood, opening prayer by Lee Wallace, and closing prayer by John Mitchell. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. – noon at the chapel. Interment will follow at Blair Cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Laney was born Nov. 4, 1944, to Clarence Gilbert Jester and Obera Evon Chandler Jester. She passed from this life on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024, at Princeton Hospital. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Jimmy R. Laney, brother, Wayne Jester; grandson, Denzel Mattox; brother-in-law, Ancil Wallace. She is survived by her sons, Dumont Laney, and Ronald Laney (Linda); daughters, Janola Mitchell (John), Cloressia Mattox, Allyson Brown (Chris); brother, Wade Jester (Gina); sisters, Betty Wallace, and Freda Duskin (Terry); seven grandchildren, Justin Mitchell (Rachel), Brett Mitchell (Katie), Ethan Mitchell (Kami), Nathan Haynes (Mary), Kaitlyn Owens (Micah), Conner Sapp, Adeline Brown; fourteen great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews, family and friends. Barbara is well known by many in this community through her banking career at Compass Bank, then later at Regions Bank. She loved being active in her hobbies after retirement, spending her time doing meticulous needle work, puzzles, and playing cards with her friends. She was also a longtime member and officer of Cullman Bowling League. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, and she will always be remembered as such.

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