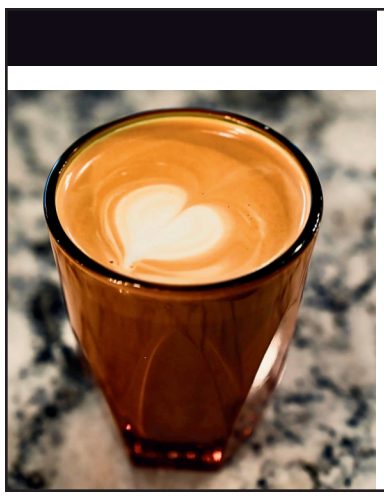


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MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Raiders, Lady Raiders earn senior night wins over Holly Pond

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Cullman City Council moves forward on 'baby box' at Fire Station 3

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council on Monday authorized Mayor Woody Jacobs to enter into an agreement with Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. for installation of a place for parents who cannot care for their infants to drop them off anonymously at Cullman Fire Station Number 3 on Alabama Highway 157.

On its website, 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 heart- » PAGE 2



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Cullman's Fire Station 3 on Alabama Highway 157 could receive a "baby box" to take in infants who might otherwise be abandoned.

CPD vehicles sporting new designs



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Police Department patrol vehicles are sporting new designs to update the look of the fleet and increase visibility and officer safety.

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Police Department patrol vehicles are sporting new designs. The new styles update the look of the fleet in general, but also serve to increase visibility and officer safety, the department said.

"Updated striping on the vehicles features a highly visible dash pattern on the rear and one large stripe on the side, ensuring patrol units are easily seen during calls and especially traffic stops. They also make the units more visible within the community.

"I think it's a fresh, unified look at our agency that the officers and the citizens can be proud of with the new design because it's very professional in my opinion," said Chief Joey Duncan.

The new designs display "Cullman colors" like black and gold and proudly sport the department's core values: Community,

Professionalism, Duty. The transition to the new decals is an ongoing process expected to take up to a year or a year and a half for full fleet implementation.

All newly acquired vehicles, including Ford Interceptors, which have been selected for their cost effectiveness and availability over the Chevrolet Tahoes, according to the CPD, will feature the updated design.

Said Duncan, "The new design of our police fleet encompasses a lot of the input of police officers here and it represents the tradition of our police department, which we're very proud of."



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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Cullman High's Howze, Townson achieve All State Jazz Band honors



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Max Townson and Lily Howze » PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 29

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 29, 2025. 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

Jan. 27

• theft of property-4th degree; person; cash; Cullman Shopping Center
• retail theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; $35; battery charger; Olive St. SW
• domestic violence-3rd degree – harassing communications; person

Jan. 29

• theft of property-4th degree; person; trailer hitch; $400; Hwy. 157

ARRESTS

Jan. 27-28

Jones, Melanie R.; 36

• receiving stolen property-4th degree

Addison, Byron T.; 49

• retail theft of property-3rd degree
• FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA – attempt to elude
• FTA – insurance violation
• FTA – driving without driver's license
• FTA – expired tag
• FTA – driving while revoked
• FTA – certain person forbidden to possess pistol
• FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree

Pickering, Angela A.; 49

• FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA – insurance violation
• FTA – fail to register vehicle
• FTA – driving without driver's license

Hankins, Joshua; 35

• obstructing justice – using false identity

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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Council (from Front)

breakingly 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."

Spring Cleanup

The council announced its annual spring cleanup for March 24-28. City sanitation crews will offer curbside pickup of furniture, appliances, mattresses and other bulky items. In order to focus on bulk item pickup, crews will not be picking up brush, limbs or yard waste, and the City requested that residents not put such items out during that week.

Hazardous materials dropoff

Sanitation crews will not take construction materials, cross ties, tires or hazardous materials, but Councilman Johnny Cook announced that the City will hold a hazardous materials drop-off day at the Sanitation Department on March 22.

Residents may bring oil, pesticides, paint, old gas cans and other items to the sanitation facility on that day.

On its second reading the council passed an ordinance to annex 21 acres of N31, LLC property located on U.S. Highway 31 North and Alabama Highway 157 adjacent to the Noble Ridge subdivision as a high-density residential district.

The zoning of the district would allow any residential construction from single-family dwellings to apartment buildings, but Council President Jenny Folsom, advised by City Attorney Luke Satterfield, said that current plans call for "single-family homes, but smaller lot size."

The council also passed resolutions to:

• Apply for Rebuild Alabama Act grant funds for roadway improvements on Graham Street Southwest
• Enter into a contract with Sain Associates, Inc. for wayfinding signage for the OmniPlex Sports District

The council also approved a special event request from Jessica Atchley of Victim Services of Cullman for a Fire Truck Pull event on May 3, 2025, in the WildWater parking lot at 1707 Main Ave. SW.

The Cullman City Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7 p.m. in the City Hall auditorium.

The public is invited to attend.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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.

Polar Bear Plunge
Saturday, Feb. 1, at 10 a.m. at WildWater and the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center. Two names will be drawn from the participants who take the plunge! One winner will receive a one-year family membership CWAC and one winner will receive a four-pack of 2025 season passes to WildWater! You MUST be present to win! The event is FREE to enter, and we are accepting optional donations for our partner, Special Olympics! Register at www.waiverfile.com/b/CullmanCityParksRecreation/Waiver.aspx.

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.

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.

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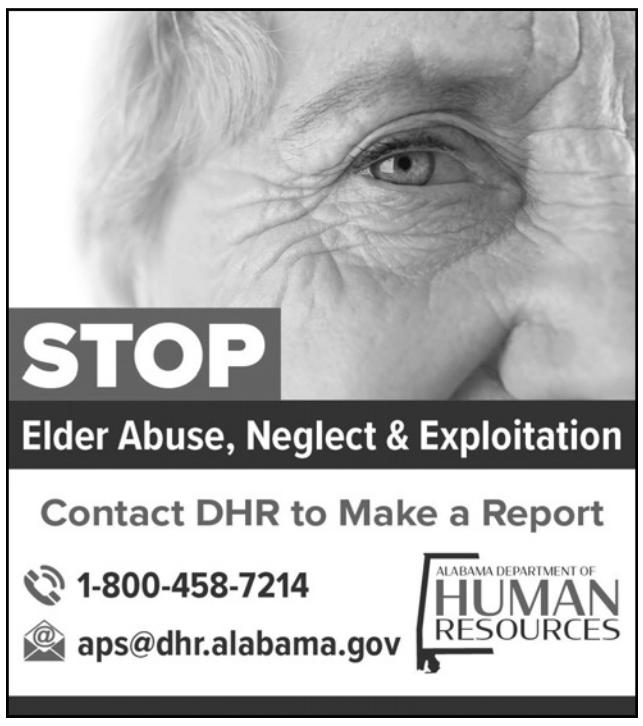


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PREP BASKETBALL

Raiders, Lady Raiders earn senior night wins over Holly Pond

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — The Good Hope Raiders hosted the Holly Pond Broncos Tuesday night and in addition to celebrating senior night, both Good Hope squads took home wins in their final regular season home games. In the girls' game, it was a close game at the half, but Good Hope outscored Holly Pond 21-12 in the third quarter and that helped them get past the Lady Broncos 50-39. In the boys' game, the Raiders jumped out to a big lead and held onto it for the rest of the contest, defeating Holly Pond 66-45.

Good Hope 50 - Holly Pond 39 (Varsity Girls)

Ava McSwain scored down low to put Good Hope on the scoreboard first, but on the other end, Ava Thomas nailed a short jumper to tie the game up at two. Lexi Collins banked in a three from the top of the key, McSwain added a driving layup, and Sophie Konrad knocked down a pair of free throws to give the Lady Raiders a 9-2 lead. A steal and a layup by Madison Butts made it a 9-4 game and later added a pair from the line to keep it at a five-point game at 11-6 at the start of the second.

Thomas buried a trey to cut it to 11-9 early in the second quarter and later in the quarter, Sadie Nail scored down low to make it a 14-12 game.

Lexi Marshall collected a steal and laid it in to give Good Hope a 16-12 lead. Blakely Baggett knocked down a short jumper to trim it to two at 18-16, but McSwain nailed a trey from the left corner to extend the Lady Raider lead to 21-16 at the break.

Konrad laid it in, and Marshall dropped in a floater to increase Good Hope's lead to 25-16 early in the third. Butts knocked down a three to cut it to 25-19, and later in the quarter, a trey by Maggie Nail made it a 27-22 game. A floater by McSwain and a trey by Ella Gossett gave the Lady Raiders a 32-22 lead, but Millie McBee got a steal and laid it in on the other end, then Thomas added a driving layup to trim the Holly Pond deficit to six at 32-26. McSwain buried a trey and Gossett put in a driving layup to put Good Hope ahead, 37-26. Marshall added a three of her own, and Konrad laid it in to extend the Lady Raider lead to 42-28 at the start of the fourth.

Butts nailed a short jumper, and a steal and a layup by McBee made it a 42-32 game early in the fourth quarter. A pair of baskets by Marshall gave Good Hope a 46-32 lead. Baskets by McSwain and Konrad made it a 50-34 game, and the Lady Raiders would go on to defeat the Lady Broncos 50-39.

McSwain led the way for Good Hope with 20 points. Marshall added 11 points, and Konrad collected eight points. For Holly Pond, Thomas finished with 10 points. Butts put in nine points, and Maggie Nail added eight points.

Good Hope 66 - Holly Pond 45 (Varsity Boys)

Jacob Haynes and Tyler Cone each put in floaters to give Good Hope an early 4-0 lead. Cade Allbright scored on the other end for Holly Pond to make it a 4-2 game, but the three-ball helped the Raiders extend their lead. Cone nailed one from the top of the key, and Gavin Pace buried one from the left wing to give Good Hope a 10-2 lead.

After Haynes dropped in another floater, Cone knocked down another trey to make it a 13-2 game. Sawyer Olinger nailed a trey, and Allbright hit a pair of baskets in the paint to make it an 18-9 game. A pair of baskets by Haynes and one by Tucker Screws stretched the Raider lead to 24-9. Sam Hunt scored down low, and Ty Dunn and Olinger each knocked down a three to cut it to 26-17. Kye McSwain nailed a trey just before the buzzer to make it a 29-17 game at the start of the second.

Haynes' three made it a 32-17 game early in the second, but Holly Pond started to cut into Good Hope's lead. Allbright scored down low, then Olinger put in a reverse layup to cut it to 34-21. Baskets by Hunt and Olinger made it a 34-25 game. Haynes put in a pair of late baskets, and Pace knocked down a trey to give the Raiders a 41-25 game. They would take a 41-27 lead into the locker room.

Pace buried his third three of the game to make it a 44-27 game. Tucker Malin added one of his own from long-range to put Good Hope ahead, 47-30. A rebound and putback by Allbright made it a 47-32 game. Tucker Keef knocked down a long jumper, then Tyler Byrd grabbed the offensive rebound and put it back in to make it a 52-32 game. Byrd knocked down a three, Malin dropped in a floater, and Pace put in another shot from long-range to increase the Raider lead to 60-34 going into the locker room.

McSwain's three made it a 63-36 game. Olinger knocked down a trey of his own, then Dunn added back-to-back threes to cut it to 63-45. Keef nailed a trey on the other end to put the finish touches on a 66-45 win for Good Hope.

Haynes led the way for Good Hope with 18 points. Pace added 12 points. Cone ended up with 10 points, and Malin put in seven points. Allbright finished with 17 points for Holly Pond. Olinger added 15 points, and Dunn put in nine points.

Both teams will now start preparing for their upcoming area tournaments.



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Jacob Haynes posted 18 points in the Raiders' 66-45 win over Holly Pond Tuesday night



SAMMY CONFER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Ava McSwain led the Lady Raiders with 20 points in their 50-39 win over Holly Pond Tuesday night.

PREP BASKETBALL

Cold Springs splits varsity matchups with Dora

Christian Ballard
Correspondent

BREMEN, Ala. — After competing in this year's county tournament last week, the Cold Springs Eagles and Lady Eagles were back on the court hosting Dora in their final home regular season matchups Tuesday night. The Lady Eagles got things start with a 65-41 win over the Lady Bulldogs but in the boys' game, the Eagles came up just short against Dora, 52-40.

Cold Springs 65 – Dora 41 (Varsity Girls)

As both teams struggled to put points on the board early, the Lady Eagles' defense got off to a strong start with a fast start. Hollyn Bruer drove to the baskets and finished with a layup to strike first.

Dora's offense picked up as the game continued but Kenady Graves, Aleah Addison and Ella Dickerson knocked down some three's early to help build a 14-5 lead for Cold Springs at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, Cold Springs outscored Dora 18-14 to take a 32-19 lead into halftime as the Lady Eagles defense applied a lot of pressure.

Graves made a big impact on both ends of the floor to help add to Cold Springs' lead. The Eagles applied different defenses that helped build up their lead going into the halftime break.

The Bulldogs outscored the Lady Eagles 14-12 in the third to chip away at the lead, but Dora was unable to keep that pace in the fourth, allowing Cold Springs to collect a 65-41 win.

Addison and Dickerson each posted 14 points in the win. Graves finished with 13 and Bruer added 10.

Dora 52 – Cold Springs 40 (Varsity Boys)

Jayden Griffin hit a three to give Dora a fast start, but Cold Springs continued to ramp up the pressure in the paint. Ayden Black knocked down a three on the other end and came up with a couple of takeaways early in the first quarter.

At halftime, Dora led 22-21 as we saw a lot of great defense, with some foul trouble, from both sides.

To start the third, Dora went on a quick, 4-0 run to start the third quarter before the Eagles stopped the run with a basket of their own.

Dora led by 10 going into the fourth quarter and put together a 12-7 run to start the final frame.

The defense for both sides kept it close and Black and Bailey Gann both hit threes, but it wasn't enough to overcome the Bulldog lead and Dora went on to win it 52-40.

Black led the Eagles with 15 points in the loss, followed by Lindan Hill with 11 and Ethan Day with seven.

The Eagles and Lady Eagles will now begin preparing for their upcoming area tournaments.



CHRISTIAN BALLARD/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Ella Dickerson drives to the basket for a layup during the Lady Eagles' 65-41 win over Dora Tuesday night.





Cullman High's Howze, Townson achieve All State Jazz Band honors

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman High School student musicians Lily Howze and Max Townson achieved Alabama All State Jazz Band honors.

The Alabama Bandmasters Association hosted its annual All-State Jazz Band Festival Jan. 23-25, bringing together the most talented high school and middle school jazz musicians from across the state. Students across Alabama are encouraged to audition for a spot in one of the elite ensembles: Gold, Silver, Bronze and Middle School. Each group consists of musicians who are selected based on audition scores. The audition process is rigorous and highly selective, making securing a spot extremely challenging.

Howze ranked sixth statewide, earning her the position of lead auxiliary percussion player in the Bronze Band. She was moved up to lead drum set when another student musician dropped out. Townson ranked fourth on guitar, making him the alternate for the Bronze Band.

"These students put a lot of work into refining their skills and we are very proud of them," said Cullman High School and Middle School Assistant Band Director Doug Teuscher. "These seniors are some of the top musicians in the state and their talent and dedication to their craft have paid off, placing them among the brightest and most inspiring student musicians."

The All-State Jazz Band Festival also features renowned clinicians who spend those three days working closely with the students. Students who were selected to be a part of these bands traveled to Birmingham, for the event, which concluded with concerts at the BJCC Theatre.



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Lily Howze



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Max Townson and Lily Howze

Hanceville (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

MORGAN COUNTY, Ala. — Morgan County deputies executed a failure to appear warrant on Jan. 28, after John Tillman Flanagan, 36, of Hanceville, failed to show up for court. Flanagan is charged with two counts of first-degree sexual abuse.

The charges stem from a Morgan County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division case involving a juvenile under the age of 16.

Flanagan, who was out on bond, failed to show up for court on Jan. 28, prompting the court to issue the FTA warrant.

Deputies, assisted by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, located Flanagan and took him into custody that same day. He was transported to the Morgan County Jail, where he is being held with no bond.

According to Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry, Morgan County was the responding agency and was responsible for the arrest. The original crime occurred in Morgan County and that is where the charges stemmed from.

"Being able to collaborate with surrounding agencies and work together is an absolute necessity. I am grateful to have this individual picked up and in custody," said Gentry.



MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

John Tillman Flanagan

Joppa (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

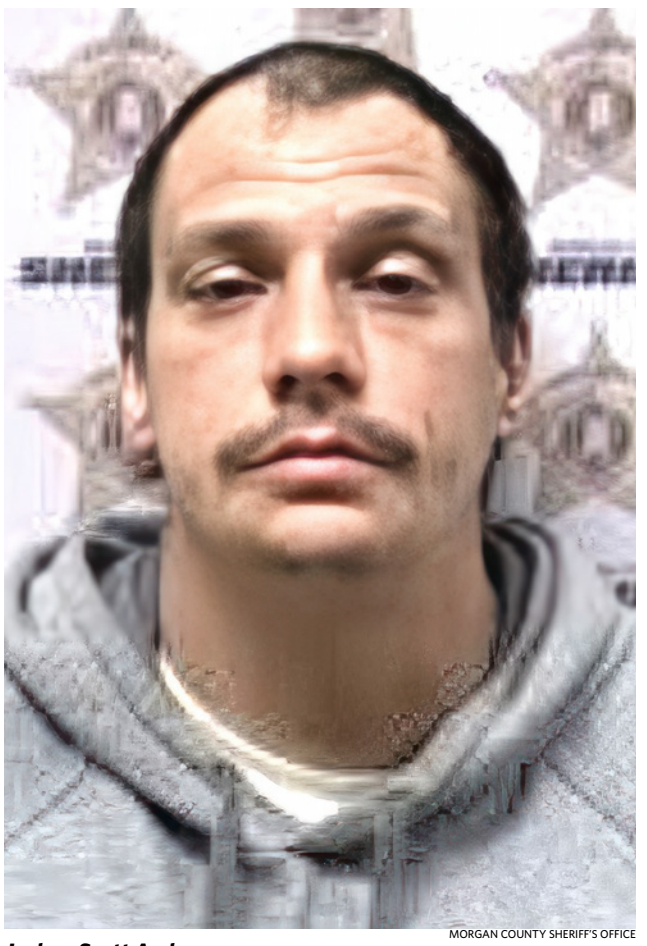
MORGAN COUNTY, Ala. — A Joppa man was arrested on a grand jury warrant by Morgan County Deputies on Jan. 24, 2025.

In a case handled by Morgan County Sheriff's Office investigators, Joshua Scott Anderson, 41, was charged with sexual abuse of a child less than 12 years old.

Anderson was transported to the Morgan County Jail on a $250,000 bond.

According to Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry, the MCSO was the responding agency and was responsible for the arrest. The alleged crime occurred in Morgan County and that is where the charges stemmed from.

"The Anderson arrest took place in Cullman County, but he was then transported to the Morgan County Jail," said Gentry. "Being able to collaborate with surrounding agencies and work together is an absolute necessity. I am grateful to have this individual picked up and in custody."



MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Joshua Scott Anderson

Cullman County (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

MADISON COUNTY, Ala. — A man with outstanding felony warrants in Cullman County was taken into custody in Madison County on Wednesday, Jan. 29, after allegedly assaulting a Madison County Sheriff's Office deputy.

Robby Lee Fowler, 35, was stopped on a traffic violation by the MCSO Street Crimes Unit in the area of U.S. 231 South and Hobbs Island Road. During the stop, the deputy discovered Fowlers outstanding warrants.

The MCSO said that as the deputy attempted to take Fowler into custody, he resisted and assaulted the deputy, causing injuries.

Fowler allegedly fled on foot but was apprehended a short distance away from the scene.

Following the incident, Fowler was apprehended and formally charged with second-degree assault.

He was subsequently taken into custody and transported to the Madison County Detention Facility, where he is currently being held pending further proceedings.

The MCSO said the deputy was transported to Huntsville Hospital for treatment and is expected to be fine.



MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Robby Lee Fowler







Legal Notice

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

2013 Chevrolet Malibu Vin 1G11B5SA8DF183211

This vehicle will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Ponder Wrecker Service, 2600 AL HWY 157, Cullman AL, 35058, on March 4, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by those certain mortgage executed by **AMY SIGOUIN** to **WALKER BROTHERS, LTD.**, dated the 12th day of July, 2006, recorded in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, in Mortgage Book 1480, Page 824, which default continues;

The undersigned Michael J. Baggett, as Attorney for Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, at the Cullman County Courthouse in Cullman, Alabama on the 7th day of February, 2025, between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., the following described real estate, situated in Cullman County, Alabama:

A PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, WHICH IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID FORTY ACRE TRACT; THENCE SOUTH ALONG WEST LINE OF FORTY 1220 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PROPERTY HERE DESCRIBED; THENCE EAST AND PARALLEL TO NORTH LINE OF SAID FORTY ACRE TRACT, 300 FEET; THENCE SOUTH AND PARALLEL TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID FORTY ACRE TRACT, 210 FEET; THENCE WEST PARALLEL TO NORTH LINE OF SAID FORTY ACRE TRACT, 300 FEET; THENCE NORTH ALONG WEST LINE OF FORTY, 210 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING ONE (1) ACRE, MORE OR LESS. SITUATED, LYING AND BEING IN CULLMAN COUNTY, STATE OF ALABAMA.

This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure.

Notice is hereby given to AMY SIGOUIN, on this the 8th day of January, 2025.

MORTGAGEE: **WALKER BROTHERS, LTD**

By: _____
Michael J. Baggett
BAGGETT & WILSON, LLC
Attorney for Mortgagee
206 Ninth Street SW, Suite 102
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: 256-737-0740

PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
JAMES COLLIER COGGIN, II,) CASE NO.: PC-2024-370
An alleged incapacitated person.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN AND CONSERVATOR

TO: THOMAS BRINDLEY COGGINS, II and
ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Permanent Appointment of Guardian and Conservator* has been filed by Attorney Heath E. Meherg, for Petitioner, Thomas Coggin III. A hearing on said *Petition for Permanent Appointment of Guardian and Conservator* has been **re-set for the 12th day of February, 2025, at 11:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 22nd day of January, 2025.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Heath E. Meherg
Attorney for Petitioner
409 1st Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
HORACE COLLINS BROWN,) CASE NO.: PC-2024-406
An alleged incapacitated person.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP

TO: SHERRI CHISM, SCOTT A. BROWN and
ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Conservatorship* has been filed by Martha Brown, Petitioner, by and through Attorney, Alex J. Chaney. A hearing on said *Petition for Letters of Guardianship and Conservatorship* has been **re-scheduled for the 25th day of February, 2025, at 11:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 28th day of January, 2025.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
)
ANNA M. MADDOX,) Case No.: PC-2024- 344
)
Deceased)

Case# PC2024-344
PB WIL Book 127 Page 892
Recorded in Above Book and Page
01/14/2025 10:49AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Pamela Marie Stead as the Administrator of the Estate of Anna M. Maddox, deceased, on the 14th day of January, 2025, 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.

Pamela Marie Stead
Pamela Marie Stead
Administrator of the Estate of
Anna M. Maddox, deceased

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

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

Beverly Paschal Poston (PAS001)
Attorney for the Estate of
Anna M. Maddox, deceased.
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256)739-3970 Fax (256)739-3968

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN PROBATE JUDGE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
BRADLEY MILLS RICHIE, * CASE NO.: PC2024-094
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to MICHAEL RICHIE, as Personal Representative, of the ESTATE OF BRADLEY MILLS RICHIE, deceased, on the 21st day of January 2025, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

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

MICHAEL RICHIE
Personal Representative

John R. Jacobs
Maples, Tucker & Jacobs
P.O. Box 845
Birmingham, Al 35201-0845

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 21st day of January, 2025.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on April 15, 2010 by Kelly L. Steele, unmarried, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1623, Page 447 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on February 7, 2024:

A tract or parcel of land containing 3.01 acres of land, more or less, and being part of the NE ¼, of the SE ¼ of Section 23, Township 9 South, Rage 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama, and being mort particularly described as follows: Commence at a found rock marking the accepted Southwest comer of said quarter-quarter and run N 00 degrees 32 minutes 40 seconds W and run along the accepted West line a distance of 647.43 feet to a found capped rebar; thence run N 86 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds E a distance of 558.33 feet to a found rebar marking the point of beginning thence continue N 86 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds E a distance of 209.91 feet to a found rebar; thence N 85 degrees 11 minutes 48 seconds E a distance of 574.47 feet to a set rebar on the East line of said quarter-quarter; thence N 00 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds E and run along said East line a distance of 173.81 feet to a set rebar; thence S 73 degrees 09 minutes 10 seconds W a distance of 183.37 feet to a set rebar; thence S 83 degrees 45 minutes 31 seconds W a distance of 66.04 feet to a set rebar; thence N 88 degrees 57 minutes 39 seconds W a distance of 72.52 feet to a set rebar; thence N 84 degrees 22 minutes 00 seconds W a distance of 271.80 feet to a set rebar; thence N 87 degrees 30 minutes 53 seconds W a distance of 209.43 feet to a set rebar; thence S 03 degrees 08 minutes 38 seconds E a distance of 206.51 feet to the point of beginning. Less and except all that part of the above described property that is within the right-of-way of Cullman County Road No. 1194. Subject to any right-of-way and/or easements of record.

Together with a permanent, non-exclusive easement for unlimited and full access, ingress and egress, Said easement runs along and existing gravel road and is described as follows: A tract or parcel of land containing 0.45 acres of land, more or less, and being a part of the NE ¼, of the SE ¼ of Section 23, Township 9 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a found rock marking the accepted Southwest corner of the said quarter-quarter and run N 00 degrees 32 minutes 40 seconds W and run along the accepted West line a distance of 647.43 feet to a found capped rebar; thence run N 86 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds E a distance of 558.33 to a found rebar marking the point of beginning, thence continue N 86 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds E a distance of 209.31 feet to a found rebar; thence N 85 degrees 11 minutes 48 seconds E a distance of 574.47 feet to a set rebar on the East line of Said quarter-quarter; thence N 00 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds E and run along said East line a distance of 173.81 feet to a set rebar marking the point of beginning; thence S 73 degrees 09 minutes 19 seconds W a distance of 183.37 feet to a set rebar; thence S 83 degrees 45 minutes 31 seconds W a distance of 66.04 feet to a set rebar; thence N 88 degrees 57 minutes 39 seconds W a distance of 72.52 feet to a set rebar; thence N 84 degrees 22 minutes 00 seconds W a distance of 271.80 feet to a set rebar; thence N 88 degrees 53 seconds W a distance of 209.43 feet to a set rebar; thence N 03 degrees 08 minutes 38 seconds W a distance of 20.07 feet to a found rebar; thence S 88 degrees 30 minutes 53 seconds E a distance of 211.05 feet to a found rebar in the center of a ditch; thence run in an easterly direction following the center of said ditch the following 5 courses: S 88 degrees 56 minutes 30 seconds E 118.93 feet; S 81 degrees 16 minutes 58 seconds E 162.64 feet; S 88 degrees 57 minutes 39 seconds E 61.91 feet; N 83 degrees 45 minutes 31 seconds E 62.53 feet; N 70 degrees 59 minutes 16 seconds E 91.91 feet; N 66 degrees 51 minutes 41 seconds E 101.17 feet to a set rebar on the East line of said quarter-quarter; thence S 00 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds W a distance of 36.19 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to any rights of-way and/or easements of records. lt is agreed and understood that the Grantees shall have the right to use the easement granted and conveyed hereby for roadway purposes, for utility lines and unlimited and full access, and for ingress and egress purposes. This easement shall constitute a covenant running with the land and shall insure to the benefit of the Grantees, their heirs, successors and assigns, as well as the tenants, servants, visitors, licensees, invitees and guests of the Grantees, their heirs, successors and assigns.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Thomas W. Russell
Attorney for Mortgagee
2915 Clairmont Ave. S
Birmingham, Alabama 35205
The Cullman Tribune-January 16, 23, 30, 2025

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Jerry Finley Husband And Victoria Finley Wife to Jim Walter Home, Inc. dated September 28, 2001; said mortgage being recorded on November 6, 2001, in Book 1214, Page 136 in and re-recorded in Book 1210, Page 42 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to U.S. Bank, N.A., as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to First Union Bank, as Trustee, for Mid-State Trust XI by assignment recorded in Deed Book 333, Page 171 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, ALABAMA.
The undersigned, U.S. Bank, N.A., as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee, for Mid-State Trust XI, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on the 6th day of February, 2025 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:
COMMENCE AT THE NW CORNER OF THE S 1/2 OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 786.92' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 150.00'; THENCE RUN S 00 DEGREES 00'00"E, 320.00'; THENCE RUN N 86 DEGREES 44'23"W, 150.00'; THENCE RUN N 00 DEGREES 00'00"E, 320.00' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; SAID HEREIN DESCRIBED TRACT CONTAINS 1.1 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND LIES IN THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

ALSO, A 30' ACCESS EASEMENT, 15' EITHER SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: COMMENCE AT THE NW CORNER OF THE S 1/2 OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, A(N) 1/2" IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 786.92'; THENCE RUN S 00 DEGREES 00'00"W, 320.00'; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 37.92' TO THE POINT IN THE SOUTH LINE OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY, THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN S 57 DEGREES 49'41"W, 166.27; THENCE RUN S 59 DEGREES 11'33"E, 391.93.; THENCE RUN S 66 DEGREES 34'41"E 82.63'; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 38'34"E, 239.96' TO THE POINT OF ENDING IN THE ROAD EASEMENT ACQUIRED BY JOSEPH A. CHAPMAN BY DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 301, PAGE 827, IN SAID COUNTY.

ALSO, A 30' ACCESS EASEMENT, 30' NORTH OF AND PARALLEL TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LINE: COMMENCE AT THE NW CORNER OF THE S 1/2 OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T-11-S, R-3-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 786.92'; THENCE RUN S 0 DEGREES 00'00"E, 320.0' THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 150.0' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN S 86 DEGREES 44'23"E, 400' TO THE POINT OF ENDING IN THE ROAD EASEMENT ACQUIRED BY JOSEPH A. CHAPMAN BY DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 301, PAGE 827, IN SAID COUNTY.

Said property is commonly known as 501 County Rd 588, Hanceville, AL 35077.
Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.
Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.
Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage.

U.S. BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MID-STATE TRUST XI
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street North, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
(205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 23-05296AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

LEGALS

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday February 3, 2025, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Short form subdivision – 308 & 314 2nd Avenue SE – create two lots

For further information contact Brian Landreth or Amber Duke at the City of Cullman Building Department at 256-775-7203.

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

Enhance your green thumb at the 28th annual Urban Forestry & Horticulture Conference

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

FLORENCE, Ala. — The 28th annual Urban Forestry & Horticulture Conference will take place on March 7, 2025, at Cross Point Church of Christ in Florence. Hosted by the City of Florence Beautification Board and Tree Commission, the conference, this year themed "Creating Sustainable Ecosystems: A Bubble of Life," will focus on sustainable practices, the importance of bees, managing native plants and trees, herbalism, birding and habitat-friendly landscape design.

Registration opens at 8 a.m. and the conference begins at 8:45. The $50 fee includes a full day of expert-led sessions, networking opportunities and lunch provided by the Alabama Cattleman's Association, sponsored in part by Tri-Green Equipment.

Attendees can also enter door prize drawings and explore local vendor offerings. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be available through the University of North Alabama's Education and Research In-Service Center.

"Anyone who enjoys gardening, landscaping or outdoor activities will find value in the knowledge shared at this conference," said Kristin Seabol, chair of the Florence Beautification Board.

"This is a great opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals while learning about sustainable practices that can benefit our environment."

For Cullman residents, Dr. Kira Sims, Cullman County Extension coordinator, highlighted the conference's diverse learning opportunities for those that wish to attend.

"The Florence Urban Forestry & Horticulture Conference is a great opportunity for gardeners of any skill level to learn more about sustainable practices they can implement in their own gardens," she said.

"The conference would also be beneficial to professionals in the green industry to strengthen their knowledge on sustainable practices they can include in their daily work," she added.

"Another perk to attending is receiving continuing education credits. Normally, one has to travel a great distance to attend a similar conference, but this one is close enough to be a day trip."

Additionally, a Pesticide Recertification Class will be held on March 6 at Cross Point Church of Christ at 8:30 a.m., with a $50 registration fee. Those interested in both can register at a discounted rate of $80.

Registration is available online at www.florenceal.org/28th-annual-urban-forestry-horticulture-conference, where a printable registration form is also available.

For more information, contact Kristin Seabol at kristinseabol@icloud.com. Cross Point Church of Christ is located at 1360 Cox Creek Parkway, Florence, Alabama.

Studio K & Co. Salon hosting Galentine's Day Celebration Feb. 10

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman residents looking for a day full of shopping, beauty services and giveaways won't want to miss the Galentine's Day event on Feb. 10, at Studio K & Co. Salon. The all-day celebration, running from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., will feature a variety of vendors, exclusive giveaways and a Galentine-themed atmosphere perfect for making memories with friends.

"Join us for a fun-filled day with amazing vendors," said Kinsey Johnson, Studio K & Co. Salon owner and event organizer. "Enjoy exclusive goodies from some of our favorite women-owned businesses and our fabulous Studio girlies. Indulge in delicious snacks and drinks while capturing memories with your friends. See ya there, besties!"

Attendees will have access to unique shopping experiences and services, including:

• A hat bar by @splittreedesigns where attendees can design custom trucker hats, wide-brim hats, baseball hats or cowboy hats with a wide selection of accessories

• Piercings by @chazytribevel will have walk-in piercings available all day with a variety of stylish jewelry options

• Tattoos by @lemilabeauty. Attendees can book an appointment for "fun and super cute tiny tattoos." Bookings for the tattoos are already open. For those interested, visit Le Mila Beauty.

• Permanent jewelry by @morg.the.estie where attendees can choose from a variety of beautiful pieces designed for long-term wear

• Photo spots will also be available at the studio

Attendees will also have the chance to enter to win several exciting prizes from local businesses and service providers, including:

• A free glam session by Paris Jackson

• Two blowout sessions by Kennedy Twilley (separate winners)

• A gift card towards a microblading session with Savannah Livingston

• A $50 gift card for esthetic services with Emi Harrison

• A $75 gift card for cleaning services by Abbey Bates

• A $75 gift card for a 30-minute massage by Mallory Ballenger

• A free IV infusion treatment by Jacey Hawkins with Hawkins Medical and Wellness

• A gift card valued at $200 for a photography session (up to two people) with Angel Terry

• A $50 gift card for boutique items from Larissa Contreras with XO Fash

• A free one-month gym membership plus a training session gifted by Tamara Summers

• A $170 gift card for a brow lamination and lash lift service by Morgan Harris

To enter the giveaway and find full details on participation, visit https://tinyurl.com/GiveawayEntryGal.

For more information, contact the Studio K & Co. Salon at 256-841-5227 or studiokandcosalon@gmail.com. Studio K & Co. Salon is located at 421 Third Ave. SE in Cullman.

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 28-29

Raymond 'Ray' Leslie Morrison, 86
Graveside Service for Raymond "Ray" Leslie Morrison, age 86 of Hanceville, will be at 1 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, at Mountain Grove Cemetery; burial at Mountain Grove Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Morrison passed away on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, at the Folsom Center. He was born, June 4, 1938, to J.T. Morrison and Mary Morrison. He was preceded in death by his parents; daughters, Melinda Morrison and Melissa Morrison; son, Steve Morrison; brother, Billy Morrison and sister-in-law, Bette Morrison. Survivors include his nephew, Neal Morrison and his niece, Beth Morrison.

Thomas Henderson Mills, 71
Thomas Henderson Mills was born Aug. 12, 1953, at Mobile Infirmary and died Jan. 28, 2025. Tom grew up in both Evergreen, Alabama, and St. Petersburg, Florida. He was the son of the late Isaac Robert Mills and Mary Edward Page Mills. Tom is survived by his wife of 43 years, Annette Olive Mills; four daughters – Mary Lauren Hartline (Michael) of Holly Pond, Alabama, Melissa Belle Mills of Austin, Texas, Norma Jeanne Mills of Cullman, Alabama, and Nina Paige Moss (Thomas) of Cullman, Alabama; two brothers, Isaac Robert Mills, Jr. of Hartford, Alabama, and Wyatt Ashford Mills of Hartford, Alabama; his twin sister Belle Henderson Mills of Homewood, Alabama; five grandchildren, Mallory and Marissa Hartline, Hudson and Hannah Cherry and Ada Louise Moss, and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and other relatives. Tom attended the Florida School for the Blind and the Alabama School for the Blind, Troy State University with a B.S. in Social Science and Business, and the E.H. Gentry Technical Facility in Talladega where he received his Blind Vendor Certification. Tom was a fighter. He was born prematurely and fought to survive; he was blinded by a faulty incubator at birth and fought to overcome the challenges of dealing with blindness. He fought to accomplish the same goals as his three brothers and two sisters such as riding a bike while others yelled directions to driving a car in the cow pasture with his brothers directing. He fought for the rights of other blind people especially the Blind Vendors of Alabama. He operated vending facilities at Shelton State Technical College and Partlow State School in Tuscaloosa; then he moved to Cullman to operate the vending machines at the Cullman Rest Area, Post Office, and DHR. Tom fought the good fight against Alzheimer's but finally found peace in Heaven with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He would find rest from the fight. Tom loved and was very proud of his daughters. He loved Alabama football, his dog Abby and most of all – his business. He loved to work. Tom had so many friends though his school years, Vocational Rehab, the Blind Vendors, neighbors and those he interacted with through his business such as Regions Bank, Pepsi, and Cobbs Accounting. Tom was giving and generous to those who needed him. The family would like to thank CRMC, Cullman Healthcare and Rehab, and many others who helped him throughout his life. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Moss Service Funeral Home
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Holly Pond (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Holly Pond Jazz Band will host "Jazz and Red Velvet, Dinner, Dessert and a Show" on Saturday, Feb. 15, with doors set to open at 5:45 p.m.

Holly Pond High School Band Director Steven Porter said the event will be held at the Holly Pond Alumni Gym.

"I expect attendees to have a great night of music food, and fellowship," he said. "This is the fourth year for this event with Holly Pond Jazz. I have done a Jazz and Red Velvet event everywhere I have taught. Good food and the best genre of music always makes for a great night." Ticket options include $30 for dinner and the show, a table of six for $165 or $10 for the show only.

"The menu includes Italian chicken, garlic mashed potatoes, granny's green beans and red velvet cake for dessert," Porter said. "Coffee, tea and water will also be served. The funds will be used for equipment maintenance, purchases and operational expenses (for the band)."

For more information or to buy tickets, contact any band member or Porter, who can be emailed at sporter@ccboe.org. Ticket sales end Friday, Feb. 7.





5 tips for filing taxes

Portia Johnson
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

For most Americans, the deadline to file 2024 federal income taxes with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is Monday, April 15, 2025, unless extended because of a state holiday. When preparing to file federal taxes with the IRS, there are a few things to do in advance:

- Gather tax documents
- Store documents safely and securely
- Compare tax preparation options

Doing these not only helps to save time when completing the forms but also helps safeguard against omitting information or making filing errors.

Do I need to file taxes?
Some taxpayers think they do not have to file taxes if they do not make a lot of money. Generally, it is rare not to file a tax return. Simply put, if your income is less than your standard deduction, you generally do not need to file a return (assuming you do not have income, such as self-employment income).

2024 standard deductions
- Single - $14,600

- Married filing jointly and qualifying widow - $29,200

- Married filing separately - $14,600

- Head of household - $21,000

The Kiddie Tax is for taxpayers who are claimed as dependents on someone's tax return when their earned income is more than their standard deduction or, for certain children, when their unearned income (for children up to 18 or children 19 to 23 if they are full-time students) is greater than $1,300 in 2024. Find more information about Kiddie Tax by visiting the IRS website. Note: Unearned income includes investment-type income such as taxable interest, ordinary dividends, capital gain distributions, etc.

1. Gather tax documents
It is wise to collect tax-related items and information throughout the year to prepare for tax season. If you plan to itemize rather than take the standard deduction, when a tax filer itemizes taxes, they can decrease their taxable income by deducting certain expenses allowed by the IRS. Though the documents needed to file taxes vary by person, there are a few documents that all filers need.

Personal information
- Social Security numbers, names, birth dates for filers and dependents

Income earned/received
- W-2 forms, various 1099 investment, unemployment/SSI or tax return income forms
- Business: profit/loss statement, capital equipment information
- Miscellaneous: Any other income such as scholarships, gambling winnings, medical savings accounts (MSA)and alimony received

Income adjustments
- Pretax deductions paid from salary, such as IRA contributions, Health Savings Account (HSA)and alimony paid

Deductible expenses
- Purchases made for a career — such as those for educators — alimony paid (after 2018, no longer included in gross income for the payee or deductible for the payer), Keogh (a tax-deferred pension plan available for the self-employed or unincorporated businesses), Simplified Employee Pension Plan (SEP), SIMPLE (small employers)and other self-employed pension plans, moving expenses or student loan interest

Those who itemize will need to collect additional documents. Some possible itemized categories are childcare, adoption, charitable donations, disaster and loss and medical deductions. You will also want to keep receipts for work- or school-related purchases, monetary or in-kind donations (e.g., clothing, furnishing, supplies), mileage logs for miles driven for business and medical expenses.

For a checklist of tax documents to keep on hand, see Worksheet 6. Tax Preparation and Record Keeping Log on page 39 in the 2025 WISE Money Management Calendar.

2. Store documents safely and securely
It is important to keep tax documents in case you are audited by the IRS. You will also need proof of income if you apply for a loan, mortgage or college financial aid when filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The length of time to hold documents depends on the type of documentation and the filer's situation.

- Three years. All tax documents, especially a W-2and proof of income should be kept a minimum of three years

- Six years. If a tax filer underreports income, tax documents should be kept at least six years

- Seven years. If a filer claims a loss on taxes, they should keep documents at least seven years

- Indefinitely. Records of capital assets, major home improvements and purchase/sale documents for assets like stock or property should be kept forever

It is wise to keep both paper and digital copies of tax documents. Have a designated place to store physical tax records so that you can locate them easily and keep them safe from fraud or theft. Be sure the location is dry, safe- and secure. For paper copies of documents, consider purchasing a locked file cabinet or a small, compact-sized safe box at an office supply store or big-box retailer. Locking file cabinets cost between $40 and $500and safe boxes range from $30 to $150, depending on size and features.

For digital files
Take photos or scans of tax documents and upload them in a single shareable document so they are always easily accessible to you. It's also a great backup in the event that the original documents are damaged or lost. It's important to set a password to protect the tax file from being opened or accessed by someone without your knowledge or permission. All common platforms, such as Google Drive and Microsoft, allow users to password-protect documents and files.

3. Compare tax preparation options
Before filing taxes, it is good to have an idea of all of the options available to successfully file.

- File yourself using the IRS Free File

- File yourself using online guided assistance third-party commercial tax preparer software or a website



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

- Hire a commercial tax preparation firm

- Hire a tax professional such as an accountant, financial advisor, certified public accountant (CPA) or certified financial planner (CFP)

For a list of authorized providers, search the Authorized IRS e-file Provider Locator Service on the IRS website.
Many people decide to file their own taxes, while others do not feel equipped or interested in completing their own taxes. Tax filers might consider hiring a professional if they fit into any of the following:

- Are not comfortable with financial forms

- Do not have at least 5 to 7 hours to prepare and file taxes for simple taxes or up to 20 for more complex tax situations

- Are a business owner

- Plan to itemize deductions

- Have other complex tax situation such as extensive investments, multiple properties or other assets or perform gig or contract work

4. When to file
Tax season officially began Jan. 27, 2025, but taxpayers have until April 15 to file. Generally, the best time to file taxes is as soon as you have gathered all of your tax documents. For a tax document checklist, see the Preparation and Record Keeping Log on page 39 in the 2025 WISE Money Management Calendar.

Filing early can also save filers money since many commercial tax preparers run promotional pricing in late December and early January to attract new or repeat clients. Taxpayers who file electronically typically receive returns more quickly. If you expect to receive a tax return, consider filing electronically and opting for direct deposit to get your return as soon as possible.

If a taxpayer fails to file the tax, the penalty will apply. For example, the amount of the penalty is 5% of the tax due per month, with a maximum of 25%.

If a taxpayer fails to pay the tax, the penalty will apply. For example, the amount of the penalty is 0.5% of the tax due per month, with a maximum of 25%.

Simply put, do not forget to file your taxes.

5. Checklist for first-time filers
If you are filing taxes for the first time, there are a few things that can help with filing success and make the process smoother. In addition to gathering documents in advance and comparing filing options, new filers can do the following:

Ensure that no one else can/does file you as a dependent on their return.
This is especially important for young adults or those who receive financial assistance from parents, guardians or relatives. Even if someone else claims you on their taxes, you may be able to file a return to claim specific benefits, such as education tax credits. If you think someone else may claim you on their taxes, talk to them before you file a tax return to avoid conflicts or the need to amend a return later.

Seek out tax deductions or tax credits for which you may be eligible. Some common tax credits and deductions include the following:
- Child tax credit for those with qualifying children up to age 18

- Earned income tax credit for low-to-moderate income filers

- Lifetime learning credit for those enrolled in higher education

- American opportunity tax credit for first-time college students during their first four years in school

- Student loan interest for those making payments on an educational loan

- Child and dependent care credit to claim care-related expenses

- Saver's credit for contributing to an individual retirement account

- Health Savings Account for contributions made to your HSA

- Charitable contributions for money or property donated to a qualified organization

More information
Learn more about money management by following guidelines from the 2025 WISE Money Management Calendar or by visiting www.aces.edu.