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Park-It Market at The Link Feb. 26

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Link of Cullman County will host the Food Bank of North Alabama Park-It Market on Wednesday, Feb. 26. The mobile fresh fruit and produce pantry will be on-site from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The Link Supportive Services Team Leader Jonathan Creekmore said the nonprofit has hosted the Park-It Market several times before with the Food Bank of North Alabama.

"They reached out to us to see if it is something we'd like to do, and we are always looking for practical ways to improve our neighbors' health, so naturally, we have scheduled this event as often as possible," Creekmore said. "We glean from FBNA at least twice weekly.

"They are the largest supplier of goods for our twice-weekly food bank. It's great to get these food items, especially produce, from right in our backyard."

Creekmore said The Link doesn't have the facilities to keep all fruit and veggies, especially those that expire quickly, so having the Park-It Market are a great way to allow neighbors a » PAGE 6


FACEBOOK/THE LINK OF CULLMAN COUNTY
The Park-It Market is seen at The Link in July 2024.

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Gudger, Shedd, Harbison, Wadsworth talk 'state of the state'


ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce on Friday, Feb. 14, hosted its annual State of the State Luncheon. Left to right are Chamber President Joey Orr; Cullman Electric Cooperative CEO Tim Culpepper; Cullman Electric Cooperative Vice President of Member Engagement & Communications Brian Lacy; Alabama Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman; Rep. Corey Harbison, R-Good Hope; former Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview (the longtime representative began his new role as the director of constituent affairs for Gudger Feb. 17); and Rep. Tim Wadsworth, R-Arley.

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce on Friday, Feb. 14, hosted its annual State of the State Luncheon, which allows community members to engage with the local legislative delegation and hear updates about key issues and priorities in the state and region.

The Cullman area's legislative delegation is comprised of Alabama Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman; former Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview (the longtime representative began his new role as the director of constituent affairs for Gudger Feb. 17); Rep. Corey Harbison, R-Good Hope; and Rep. Tim Wadsworth, R-Arley. The four legislators were the guest speakers at the luncheon.

The 2025 Legislative Session is happening now. The panel said legislative priorities include granting immunity to law enforcement officers and a tort reform package to expand industry growth. There was also a heavy emphasis on addressing mental health concerns, stressing community well-being.

Gudger has introduced SB2, which would "revise the definition of 'electronic nicotine delivery system' to include battery powered devices that deliver substances other than tobacco through the inhalation of vapor."

It would also "prohibit the distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, electronic nicotine delivery systems, e-liquids, and alternative nicotine products » PAGE 7

CCS previews campus development plans at State of the School address

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Cullman High's Sheffield, Hollis named National Merit Finalists


CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL ALLISON TUGGLE
Nora Sheffield, left, and Elianna Hollis, right
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Aderholt announces 2025 4th Congressional District Art Competition

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Living Free in Christ Women's Conference set for March 8 in Hanceville

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CCS previews campus development plans at State of the School address

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — At the annual State of the School address on Jan. 27, Head of School Heith Yearwood previewed Cullman Christian School's plans to purchase the Beech Center property and begin development of facilities to provide for the growing student body.

He said the school board is in the final stages of securing bank financing to purchase the Beech Center property and develop the facilities needed to meet the growing needs of Cullman Christian School. This development would include renovating the current gym to provide 20 additional classrooms to accommodate all grade levels on the Beech Campus.

Development will also include the construction of a separate gym and lunchroom. He said the development has become necessary due to the growth in student enrollment. Since 2022, enrollment has steadily grown each year from 187 students in 2022 to a current enrollment of 288 with a projected enrollment of 350 in the coming school year.

He said developing a single CCS campus would help provide for growing enrollment while also addressing the increasing rental costs the school has faced in recent years.

After opening the State of the School meeting, Yearwood reminded those in attendance of the CCS vision to educate students classically, to equip them spiritually and to send them missionally to pursue their God-ordained calling. He said the report of the past year evidenced fulfillment of this vision both on and off campus.

In academics, CCS is fully accredited by Cognia, and in school accreditation this fall, CCS scored a 315 in Cognia's Index of Education Quality compared to the Network Average of 296. CCS provides in-school testing for the ACT and overall ACT averages for students have increased, enabling students to earn competitive scholarships.

CCS participates in AHSAA sports, archery and 4-H robotics and has a vibrant youth sports program including volleyball, basketball and cheerleading. In the fine arts, CCS students receive instruction in drawing, painting and photography.

Over the past year, they have presented musical performances and participated in art and music competitions. CCS students participate in community service projects, Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce activities, the fair parade, exhibits and fair queen events, Christmas parade and youth sports.



CULLMAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Head of School Heith Yearwood speaks at this year's State of the School address

But the State of the School address also shared the need for continued improvement and invited those in attendance, as well as supporters throughout the community, to be a part.

In closing the address, Yearwood made an appeal for support for the capital campaign to fund the upcoming campus renovation and construction, for contributions to the general fund to improve teacher pay and for volunteers to use their gifts and talents to help with student activities, program development and campus maintenance.

Finally, everyone was asked to pray for the students, families, teachers, staff and board members as CCS seeks to provide an excellent education that equips students for service in the community and beyond as students pursue their God-ordained callings.

Sportsman Lake Park Spring Yard Sale set for March 15

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Sportsman Lake Park Spring Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, March 15, from 7 a.m.-3 p.m., offering a full day of shopping and bargain hunting. Admission is free, making it a perfect opportunity for families and shoppers to explore a variety of unique yard-sale finds while enjoying the beauty of Sportsman Lake Park.

For those interested in renting a space, Sportsman Lake Park offers both grass sites and pavilion spaces for vendors.

Reservations must be made in person, with different processes for securing a grass site or a pavilion.

Grass sites ($20 per space – first come, first served)

- Reservation Date: Martch 4, at 7 a.m.
- To claim a grass site, kiosk, stage or gazebo, vendors must physically pick up a flag marking their preferred location and bring it to the concession stand to complete payment
- The concession stand can accept cash or cards

Pavilion spaces ($50 per pavilion – lottery system)

- Lottery ticket sales begin Feb. 22
- To enter the pavilion lottery, vendors must purchase chances at the concession stand for $1 per entry. There is no limit on the number of chances a person can buy. The more entries, the greater the chance of securing a pavilion.
- Winners will be announced via Facebook Live on March 3
- The concession stand can accept cash or cards

Note: No phone reservations are accepted for any site and all reservations must be made in person.

For more information, visit the Sportsman Lake Spring Yard Sale event page on Facebook or call Sportsman Lake Park at 256-734-3052.

Bremen's Brooks Stephenson graduates from Troy University

Matt Clower
Troy University

TROY, Ala. — Troy University is pleased to recognize students who completed the requirements for graduation during the fall semester and term 2 of the 2024-2025 academic year.

Brooks Stephenson of Bremen was among those graduates. The fall semester includes graduates from the Troy, Alabama, campus. Term 2 graduates include students at TROY's campuses in Dothan, Phenix City and Montgomery, along with teaching sites outside of Alabama and online.

About Troy University
Troy University is a public, historic, international university with 22,500 students and 154,000 alumni.

Students choose TROY for its quality academic programs, reasonable costs and availability of financial aid, outstanding faculty, and flexible in-class and online class offerings. Students on the Troy, Ala. campus enjoy a traditional college experience, while adult students are the centers of attention at campuses in Dothan, Montgomery and Phenix City, Ala., as well as at locations around the world and online.

Cullman's Raven Haynes named to Kennesaw State Dean's List

Paul Floeckher
Kennesaw State University

KENNESAW, Ga. — Raven Haynes of Cullman has been named to Kennesaw State University's fall 2024 Dean's List in recognition of academic achievement.

Majoring in Digital Animation, Haynes is among more than 9,000 students named to the fall 2024 Dean's List. To qualify, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher while completing a minimum of nine credit hours.

A leader in innovative teaching and learning, Kennesaw State University offers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees to its more than 47,000 students. Kennesaw State is a member of the University System of Georgia with 11 academic colleges. The university's vibrant campus culture, diverse population, strong global ties and entrepreneurial spirit draw students from throughout the country and the world. Kennesaw State is a Carnegie-designated doctoral research institution (R2), placing it among an elite group of only 7 percent of U.S. colleges and universities with an R1 or R2 status. For more information, visit kennesaw.edu.

Cullman's Shea Eaton graduates from Mississippi State University

A. Matthews
Mississippi State University

MISSISSIPPI STATE, Miss. — Shea Eaton, of Cullman, was among approximately 1,500 students who graduated from Mississippi State University in fall 2024, with commencement in December. Eaton received a Bachelor of Science Summa Cum Laude from MSU's Bagley College of Engineering.

About Mississippi State University
Mississippi State University is a national STEM-focused, doctoral degree-granting, land-grant university offering a wide range of educational experiences for learning and growth to a diverse student body of more than 23,000 students. Among the National Science Foundation's Top 100 research universities, MSU provides access and opportunity to students from all 50 states and 94 countries. MSU is committed to its comprehensive research university mission, addressing complex local and global issues with innovative ideas and solutions.

Area students named to UWA President's, Dean's Lists

Betsy Compton
University of West Alabama

LIVINGSTON, Ala. — The University of West Alabama has announced more than 400 outstanding undergraduate students named to the President's List for the fall 2024 academic semester.

The President's List gives recognition to undergraduate students with exceptionally high grades for the semester, those with grade-point averages of 3.80 or higher, completing at least 12 semester credit hours, with no grade lower than a C.

Area students include:

- Sarah Palmisano of Arab (Elementary Education)
- Elijah Guyton of Cullman (Business Management)

Nearly 600 outstanding undergraduate students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 academic semester.

The Dean's List gives recognition to those undergraduate students with grade-point averages between 3.25 and 3.79, completing at least twelve semester credit hours, with no grade lower than a C.

Area students include:

- Alexandra McDonald of Cullman (Psychology)

Established in 1835, the University of West Alabama offers a broad range of traditional and uniquely innovative programs, including associate's, bachelor's, master's, education specialist, and doctoral degrees.

Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), UWA provides outlets for students to strengthen the educational experience through athletics, leadership development, extracurriculars, study abroad, research, and many more engaging opportunities.

For more information on UWA, its programs, and its people, visit www.uwa.edu.

3 area students named to Freed-Hardeman University President's List

Dawn Bramblett
Freed-Hardeman University

HENDERSON, Tenn. — Freed-Hardeman University has released the names of students who made the President's List for the fall 2024 semester. To be on the President's List, a student must be full time and have a 4.0 grade point average.

The following area students are included on the President's List:

- Ethan Thomas, of Arab, AL, a senior, is on the President's list
- Gavin Boler, of Joppa, AL, a senior, is on the President's list
- Owen Thomas, of Arab, AL, a sophomore, is on the President's list

The mission of Freed-Hardeman University is to help students develop their God-given talents for His glory by empowering them with an education that integrates Christian faith, scholarship and service.

With locations in Henderson and Memphis, FHU offers associate, bachelor's, master's, specialist's and doctoral degrees.

More information is available at fhu.edu.

Finalists (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman High School seniors Nora Sheffield and Elianna Hollis have been named National Merit Finalists.

"We are thrilled to extend our sincere congratulations to Cullman High School seniors Nora Sheffield and Elianna Hollis, who have been recognized as National Merit Finalists!" said CHS Principal Allison Tuggle.

"This incredible achievement is a testament to their hard work, dedication and academic excellence.

"Reaching this level of distinction is no small feat, and it reflects not only their academic prowess, but also their perseverance and commitment to their education."

She continued, "As National Merit Finalists, Nora and Elianna have proven themselves to be among the best and brightest students in the nation.

"This recognition is just the beginning of the many accomplishments we are confident they will continue to achieve in the years ahead.

"Their success inspires us all and sets a high standard for future students."

To become a National Merit Finalist, a student must meet rigorous academic and citizenship criteria, submit an application, achieve a confirming SAT or ACT score, provide a principal's recommendation and compose a personal essay.

Sheffield and Hollis are now being considered for National Merit Scholarships to be awarded this spring.

Over 6,780 Merit Scholarship winners from the group of more than 15,000 Finalists will be selected to receive scholarship offers.

"Cullman High School wishes Nora and Elianna the very best as they continue their educational journey within this prestigious program!" Tuggle said.

Nora Sheffield is the daughter of Drs. Shane and Tamara Sheffield of Cullman, and Elianna Hollis is the daughter of Paul Hollis and Jill Bishop-Hollis of Cullman.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous
Sundays, 3 p.m. at Cullman First Church of the Nazarene, 5415 Alabama Highway 157. CLOSED literature study. Handicap accessible.

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings
Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m., at the Donald E. Green Adult Active Center, 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW. The first meeting is free. TOPS, a national program, is a hands-on/pounds-off approach to weight loss and management through weekly meetings providing information, accountability, support and encouragement where you make the changes that make sense to you.

Cullman NAR-ANON Group Meetings
The NAR-ANON family group meetings are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. We offer Help by sharing our experiences, strength and hope. We carry the message of hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own attitudes. We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a religious one, but a spiritual way of life. Meetings will be held at The Ruehl Building (Family Life Center of St. John's Church) Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

Cullman Al-Anon Meetings
The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of friends and family whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. The Cullman Serenity Al-Anon Group meets each Monday at noon at 1519 St. Joseph Dr. NE. There is also a Zoom meeting each Tuesday at noon. The Courage to Change Al-Anon Family Group meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church at 305 Arnold St. NE in the Carriage House, located between the church and the Arnold House on the corner. For more information call 256-734-2231 or 256-531-4429.

The Pantry at The Link
• 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055
• Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
• Closed for lunch noon-1 p.m.

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Wednesday, Feb. 19 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, Feb. 21 - 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.
• Sunday, Feb. 23 - 9 a.m. Van runs in the 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

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

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

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

Holly Pond Lions Club Annual Beans and Greens Dinner
Saturday, March 8, from 4-7 p.m. at the Holly Pond Lions Club. Donations only. Proceeds will benefit our community service projects. We hope to see you there. Thank you in advance for your support. We will accept donated canned and non-perishable food items to benefit the food pantry located between Holly Pond Town Hall and the Holly Pond Volunteer Fire Department. Drop them off at the food pantry or when you join us at the Beans and Greens Dinner on March 8.

United Way of Cullman County Crawfish Boil 2025
Friday, March 14, from 5-7 p.m. at Goat Island Brewing. $50 all you can eat. Join us for an evening of fun, food and giving back! The bayou-bred team from Hank's Sports Bar will be boiling up fresh crawfish and veggies right on-site! Goat Island Brewing will be serving the perfect drafts to pair with your meal. Featuring the Rally Stripe Band! Get tickets at https://tinyurl.com/crawfishtix.

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.

Ladies' Conference
Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., with lunch at noon. At The Foot Of The Cross Church, 2101 County Road 1435 in Vinemont. Guest speaker Kristy Garrison Harris: Trusting God through every season. There will be games and door prizes. Please join us.



Fused Glass Art Class
with Kimberly Love
March 18th @ 12:30 pm
Come make a lovely Flower Pot Magnet that you will cherish forever!
$22 Per Person, seating is limited
Deadline to register is 3/4/25
Location
Cullman Senior Center
1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW
Cullman, Al. 35055
For more Info: 256-734-0145 or
email; kyoung@co.cullman.al.us

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NORTHWEST REGIONAL

Cold Springs' season ends with Elite 8 loss to Decatur Heritage

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — After earning a win over Sulligent in the Sweet 16 last week, the Cold Springs Lady Eagles were back on the court at Tom Drake Coliseum Monday morning to face Decatur Heritage in the Northwest Regional finals. After falling behind early, the Eagles rallied to make it a 4-point game at halftime but couldn't keep pace with Decatur Heritage in the second half and Cold Springs' season came to an end with a 61-41 loss in the Elite Eight.

The Lady Eagles outscored Decatur Heritage 14-6 in the second quarter to cut into the lead before halftime, but they weren't able to hit enough perimeter shots to keep up in the second half.

"We rebounded the ball well; I think we only gave them one shot in that quarter, so I felt like that was a big difference," Cold Springs Head Coach Tammy West said.

"We hit a few shots during that quarter and played really hard. It was just every time we'd make a run, we'd miss some open shots and once we got settled down, we couldn't hit enough. We were 4 for 24 and out of those 24 I'm going to say most of them were uncontested," We did some really nice things offensively, some things we haven't done all year before, but defensively there were just so many weapons from Decatur Heritage that you had to worry about. That just made it really hard for us to slow them down."

Three-pointers from Ella Dickerson and Hollyn Bruer put the Lady Eagles behind Decatur Heritage 7-6 early in the opening period. Dickerson hit a pair of free throws to trim the lead to 12-8 later in the first quarter but Decatur Heritage built a 20-8 lead by the start of the second.

Cold Springs battled back in the second quarter. Kenady Graves laid one in to make it a 22-10 game and after drawing a foul on a three-point attempt, Dickerson knocked down all three from the line to cut the lead to 24-13.

Dickerson drilled another three to make it 24-16 and Macie Huffstutler added a pair of free throws to hold the lead to 26-18 later in the period.

After Dickerson split a pair of free throws, Graves scored in the paint to make it a 26-21 game and Dickerson tacked on one more free throw in the final second of the first half to bring the lead down to 26-22 at halftime.

Cold Springs had a tough time getting much going on the offensive end in the third quarter. Decatur Heritage scored 13 unanswered points to start the period, stretching its lead to 39-22 at one point. Huffstutler knocked down a three with around a minute remaining in the third, but the Eagles trailed Decatur Heritage 41-25 going into the fourth.

Cold Springs didn't go down quietly in the final frame. A pair of baskets from Huffstutler and Dickerson made it a 50-33 game midway through the fourth quarter. Bruer and Dickerson each split a pair of free throws to make it 52-35 later in the period and Paizley Whitlow laid one in and Kaydance Williams sank a couple free throws to continue chipping away but it wasn't enough to overcome the Decatur Heritage lead and Cold Springs' season came to an end with a 61-41 loss in the Elite Eight.

Dickerson led the Lady Eagles with 18 points and seven rebounds in the loss. Huffstutler posted nine points and eight rebounds and Graves and Bruer each added four points.

Ella Dickerson and Kenady Graves also earned Northwest Regional All-Tournament team honors.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Kenady Graves (35) drives past a defender during Cold Springs' 61-41 loss to Decatur Heritage on Monday.

NORTHWEST REGIONAL

Cullman falls to Hartselle in Sweet 16, 56-25

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE Ala. — After toppling Clay-Chalkville in the Sub-Regional last week, the Cullman Lady Bearcats were back on the court at the Northwest Regional Thursday. The 'Cats were matched up with their rivals from Hartselle in the Sweet 16 and after a tight few minutes to start the game, the Tigers began creating separation in the second quarter and pulled away to collect a 56-25 win over Cullman.

Bearcats Head Coach Jessica McBrayer wished the outcome had been different but is also excited for what this team's postseason run can mean for the future of the program.

"Hartselle is an incredible team. They've been here many times over many years, and we knew going in that they would be ready for the moment, so we have been talking all week about experiencing this as our first time being here in a long time," McBrayer said. "We're in year two and we're at a Sweet 16 and that takes a lot of buy in from kids. A lot of buy in from high school girls to really believe in something way bigger than themselves. I told this group of girls that for them to be come in here tonight, the girls on the bench and the young girls in the stands are getting to see something that they can believe in now."

The Tigers jumped out to a 4-0 lead midway through the first quarter, but Hattie Graham drove to the basket and laid one in to make it a 4-2 game. Kadence Hanback scored to trim the lead to 6-4 later in the period and Hartselle maintained a 2-point advantage going into the second quarter.

The Tigers got the second started with a 9-0 run to pull ahead 15-4 midway through the period. Molly Wilson split a pair of free throws and scored in the paint to make it a 20-7 game later in the second quarter. Graham knocked down a three with one minute remaining in the half to cut the lead to 23-10 but Hartselle was able to score one more basket before the buzzer to take a 25-10 lead into the locker room at halftime.

Molly Dorough drained a three and Wilson scored inside to make it a 28-15 game early in the third. Baskets by Graham and Wilson chipped away at the lead as the quarter went on but by the start of the fourth, Cullman trailed Hartselle 41-19.

A pair of Rachel Hoffman baskets made it a 51-23 game midway through the fourth quarter and Presley Burden scored in the final minute of regulation but the 'Cats couldn't get any closer than that and the Tigers went on to collect a 56-25 win and advance to the Elite Eight.

Wilson (five rebounds) and Graham each posted seven points in the loss. Hoffman (six rebounds) added four and Dorough scored three.



BILL PIPER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hattie Graham (11) posted seven points in Cullman's 56-25 loss to Hartselle on Thursday.

NORTHWEST REGIONAL

Meek falls to Hubbertville in Elite 8, 69-56

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — After fending off Athens Bible in the Sweet 16 last week, the Meek Tigers were back on the court Monday to face the Lions of Hubbertville in the Elite Eight. Meek trailed by 10 at halftime and continued to battle back in the second half but the Tigers couldn't come up with enough on the offensive end to keep pace with Hubbertville, bringing another impressive postseason run to an end with a 69-56 loss in the Elite Eight.

A pair of Parker Ferguson baskets gave Meek an early, 4-3 lead and Evan McCay buried a three to keep the Tigers ahead 7-5 later as the quarter went on. A 7-0 run from Hubbertville gave the Lions a 12-7 lead later midway through the period but Briley Bowling laid one in to stop the run and make it a 12-9 game. Ryan Ewing scored a pair of baskets to hold the Hubbertville lead to 17-13 with one minute to play in the first quarter and McCay drove to the rim for another bucket to bring the lead down to 17-15 going into the second quarter.

Another Bowling basket made it a 19-17 game early in the second, but the Lions responded with a 10-2 scoring run to move out in front 29-19 with three minutes to play in the first half. A pair of McCay free throws trimmed the lead to 29-21 later in the period and another Ferguson basket held it to 31-23 but Hubbertville scored one more time in the final minute to take a 10-point lead into the locker room at halftime.

Baskets by Ewing and Bowling cut the lead to 42-27 early in the third quarter. McCay scored the next five points for the Tigers to make it a 44-32 game midway through the period. Bowling split a pair of free throws and added a basket in the paint to bring the lead down to 46-35 and McCay laid another one in to make it a 9-point game with a minute remaining in the third. However, the Lions capped the third quarter with a 7-0 scoring run to stretch their lead to 53-37 at the start of the fourth.

Ferguson scored the first 5 points of the fourth quarter to trim the lead to 53-42 and Conner Lane hit a pair of free throws to make it 53-44 with six minutes to play. Brady Baxter and Lane both knocked down three-pointers to hold the lead at 59-50 later in the fourth and two more Ferguson baskets made it a 62-54 game with three minutes remaining. Another Ewing basket made it 64-56 with just over a minute on the clock but Meek couldn't chip away any more than that and Hubbertville held on to win it 69-56.

Ferguson (six rebounds) led the Tigers with 17 points in the loss. McCay posted 14 points, Bowling added nine points and 10 boards and Ewing recorded eight points and five rebounds.

Parker Ferguson and Evan McCay each earned Northwest Regional All-Tournament team honors.



BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Meek's Evan McCay (11) finished with 14 points in the Tigers' 69-56 loss to Hubbertville on Monday.

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GROUND BEEF
Fresh 73% Lean
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$3.99 LB.



SEEDLESS GRAPES
White, Red or Black
Imported
$1.99 LB.



RUSSET POTATOES
8 Lb. Bag
U.S. #1 Colorado
$2.99 EA.



NIAGARA DRINKING WATER
24 Pk.
16.9 Oz. Bottles
3 for $10



RAGU PASTA SAUCE
23-24 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4

FOOD CLUB PASTA
16 Oz. Box
Selected Varieties
2 for $3



DOMINO SUGAR
4 Lb. Bag
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TIDE SIMPLY DETERGENT
105-117 Oz. Liquid
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$6.99 EA.



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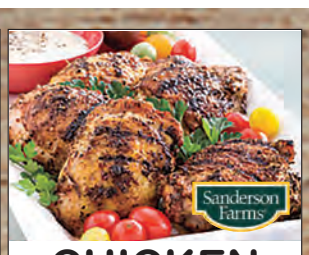
NEW YORK STRIP STEAK
Beef
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BONELESS CHUCK ROAST
Beef
(Boneless Chuck Steak $7.49 Lb.)
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TOP SIRLOIN STEAK
Beef
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$5.99 LB.



CHICKEN THIGHS
Fresh
Boneless Skinless
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FRESHLAND SAUSAGE
1 Lb. Roll
Mild or Hot
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BRYAN BACON
12 Oz.
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12 Oz.
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1 Lb.
Selected Varieties
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CLAUSSEN PICKLES
20-32 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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BOB EVANS SIDE DISHES
12 Oz. Twin Cups or
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FRESH ASPARAGUS
Great Steamed
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$2.99 LB.



SWEET ONIONS
Imported
3 Lb. Bag
$2.99 EA.



DOLE FRESH SALADS
9-12 Oz. Bag American,
Italian or Hearts of Romaine
$2.99 EA.



HONEYCRISP APPLES
Washington State
2 Lb. Bag
$4.99 EA.



GREEN BELL PEPPERS
Extra Large
69¢ EA.



BLUE BONNET SPREAD
45 Oz. Tub Original
or With Calcium
$2.99 EA.



FOOD CLUB JUMBO BISCUITS
8 Ct., 16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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McKENZIE'S CREAMED CORN
20 Oz. Golden or White
or 16 Oz. Fried Corn
2 for $4



EGGO WAFFLES
10 Ct., 10-12.3 Oz. Selected
Varieties or 12 Ct. Pancakes
2 for $6



STOUFFER'S LARGE SIZE ENTREES
15-20 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7



MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE
23-27.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$9.99 EA.



LIPTON TEA BAGS
22-24 Ct. Family Size
Original or Southern Sweet
2 for $6



PEARL MILLING PANCAKE MIX
32 Oz.
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PEARL MILLING PANCAKE SYRUP
24 Oz.
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NABISCO PREMIUM SALTINES
9-17 Oz.
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40 Oz.
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BLACKBURN'S JELLY
18 Oz. Mug
Apple or Grape
2 for $4



GENERAL MILLS FAMILY SIZE CEREAL
18-19 Oz. Cheerios, Cinnamon Toast Crunch,
Honey Nut Cheerios or Lucky Charms
2 for $9



PEPSI, MTN DEW, STARRY OR DR PEPPER
12 Pk.
12 Oz. Cans
2 for $11



SUN DROP, 7•UP, A&W OR RC COLA
12 Pk.
12 Oz. Cans
2 for $11



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



PEPSI, MTN DEW, STARRY OR DR PEPPER
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2 for $4



SUN DROP, 7•UP, A&W OR RC COLA
2 Liter Bottles
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24 Pk.
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FRITO LAY CHEETOS
7.5-8.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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GOLDEN FLAKE, UTZ, ZAPP'S OR ON THE BORDER CHIPS
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Selected Varieties
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24 Oz. Loaf
or 12 Ct.
2 for $6

LEWIS BAKE SHOP WHOLE WHEAT BREAD
16 Oz. Loaf
2 for $5

LITTLE DEBBIE BIG PACKS
12.67-30 Oz.
Selected Varieties
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BLUE BELL ICE CREAM
Half Gallon Brown or Gold Rim
Selected Varieties
$6.99 EA.

BUSCH OR BUSCH LIGHT
24 Pk.
Cans
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COORS LIGHT, MILLER LITE OR YUENGLING
24 Pk.
Cans
$24.99 EA.

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750 mL
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1.5 Liter
Bottles
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Deli Sliced
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Deli Sliced
$6.79 LB.

MAMA TURNEY'S PECAN PIE
8 Inch, 20 Oz.
$11.79 EA.

QUALITY CHERRY PIE
8 Inch, 28 Oz.
$7.99 EA.

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3 DAY SALE

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JOHNSONVILLE BEEF SMOKED SAUSAGE
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NAVEL ORANGES
4 Lb. Bag California
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FOOD CLUB MACARONI & CHEESE DINNER
5-7.25 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $1



VAN CAMP'S CHILI WITH BEANS
15 Oz.
2 for $3



ARMOUR BEEF STEW
20 Oz.
2 for $6



FOOD CLUB PINTO BEANS
1 Lb. Bag
Dried
99¢ Ea.



FOOD CLUB WHITE RICE
1 Lb. Bag
Long Grain
2 for $1



FOOD CLUB CREAM CHEESE
8 Oz.
Original
88¢ Ea.

BACK Ad #7

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Celebrating OUR PRESIDENTS

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3 DAY SALE

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HORMEL BLACK LABEL BACON
16 Oz.
Original or Thick
$4.99 Ea.



GREEN CABBAGE
Fresh
49¢ Lb.



MAXWELL HOUSE WAKE UP ROAST
28.4 Oz.
Ground
$5.99 Ea.



SWISS MISS HOT COCOA MIX
6 Ct. Milk Chocolate
or Marshmallow Lovers
99¢ Ea.



KOOL-AID JAMMERS
30 Pk.
Variety
$6.99 Ea.



PILLSBURY GRANDS! BISCUITS
5 Ct. Selected Varieties or
4 Ct. Crescent Rolls or 6 Oz. Cinnamon Rolls
5 for $5



TOMBSTONE PIZZA
12-Inch, 19-21 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $8

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Ad #7 FRONT

Aderholt announces 2025 4th Congressional District Art Competition

Staff Reports
Contributor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Robert Aderholt, R-Alabama, on Thursday announced that the 2025 4th Congressional District Art Competition is now underway. This annual competition, sponsored by the U.S. House of Representatives, provides high school students from across the district with an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents and compete for a chance to have their work displayed in the U.S. Capitol.

"The Congressional Art Competition is a wonderful tradition that gives young artists in our district the chance to share their talent on a national stage," said Aderholt. "Each year, I am amazed by the creativity and skill of our students, and I look forward to seeing this year's submissions."

The competition is open to all high school students in Alabama's 4th Congressional District, including homeschooled students. Entries may include paintings, drawings, collages, prints, mixed media, computer-generated art and photography. A panel of judges from the local art community, but from outside the 4th District, will select the winning piece, which will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year alongside artwork from other congressional districts across the country.

In addition to having their artwork exhibited in Washington, D.C., the winner will be invited to attend a national reception at the Capitol. Furthermore, each category winner will receive a scholarship to Wallace State Community College, which may be used toward any course of study Wallace State offers.

All submissions must be delivered to Aderholt's district offices by 4:30 p.m., April 3, 2025. (Please note, Aderholt's Gadsden office closed at the end of 2024. If you normally deliver artwork there, you may deliver it to our Cullman office or contact Aderholt's office to make different arrangements.)

For official rules and guidelines, students should reach out to their art teacher or principal.

If you are homeschooled, please contact Aderholt's office directly.



OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ROBERT ADERHOLT

Photo from a past awards ceremony

The 2025 4th Congressional District Art Competition Awards Ceremony and Reception will take place on April 7, 2025, at Wallace State. Due to limited space, the awards ceremony and reception are open to students, their teachers and parents only.

For further information, contact Aderholt's office at 205-221-2310 or via email at jincy.wright@mail.house.gov.

Alabama Extension agent breaks down Red No. 3 ban

Katie Nichols
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — The Red No. 3 ban has been at the forefront of many conversations since the Center for Science in the Public Interest submitted a petition to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in October 2022. The recent ban by the FDA will have widespread effect in the food industry.

Janet Johnson, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System food safety and quality agent, said the primary reason for the petition was based on two studies that showed cancer in male laboratory rats that were exposed to high levels of Food, Drug and Cosmetic (FD&C) Red No. 3.

Red No. 3

Johnson said the ban will affect foods, dietary supplements and ingested drugs that contain FD&C Red No. 3.

"The dye gives foods and drinks a bright, cherry-red color," Johnson said.

"The dye is used in food products such as candy, cakes, cupcakes, cookies, frozen desserts, frostings, icings and certain ingested drugs."

According to the ruling, manufacturers who use FD&C Red No. 3 in food and ingested drugs have until Jan. 15, 2027, or Jan. 18, 2028, respectively, to reformulate their products and update package labeling.

"It is important to note that the food industry is about producing safe food for human consumption," Johnson said.

"Appearance and aesthetics of food are important for the acceptance of the product. That is basically the reason why additives are utilized in the food industry."

Johnson said many additives are put into the category of Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS), which means that in regulated and allowed amounts intended for use, there is no evidence to demonstrate or suggest that there is a hazard to the public.

However, the Delaney Clause of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act prohibits FDA authorization of additives if they are found to induce cancer in humans or animals, thus leading to this petition to revoke FD&C Red No. 3.

"This was due to a rat-specific hormonal mechanism," Johnson said. "The way that Red No. 3 causes cancer in male rats does not occur in humans. Relevant exposure levels to FD&C Red No. 3 for humans are typically much lower than those that cause the effects shown in male rats."

Background

Johnson said animal research testing takes place before human consumption and it includes a thorough process.

"Animal research is used to determine if a product is hazardous to humans," Johnson said. "Many times, the amounts or doses given to the animal, based on weight, are higher than a human might consume in their lifetime."

Johnson said research always errs on the side of safety for the human consumer.

"If you remember, Saccharin used to have the statement that it is carcinogenic and could cause cancer in humans because it caused cancer in rats," Johnson said. "However, the amount given to rats is high for testing purposes and it would probably take more than a lifetime for a human to consume that amount based on their body weight."

She said sometimes it is difficult to make the conversions from animal effects to human effects, but safety is always the priority.

What to expect

Johnson said as petitions are submitted to the FDA to reexamine food additives, the FDA will look at research that is being done on those additives. If the risk is considered substantial, they may revoke use of that additive. She said this means the food industry and manufacturers will have to reformulate their products and update any labeling involved to remain in business.

"The food industry and drug manufacturers are constantly evolving and generating new products," Johnson said. "They will roll with the punches. Their primary goal is to make a safe product following the rules and regulations that are in place."

With Red No. 3 removed from the list of allowed additives, the concerns associated with it will diminish. However, Johnson said since there are still other food additives in the food processing industry, there is always the possibility that studies will show that high-level exposure may cause issues for humans.

Johnson said the question is always whether or not the risk mitigates the usefulness of the additive.

More information

Find more food safety and quality information by visiting www.aces.edu or contacting the food safety and quality agent who serves your area.



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM





COLUMN

He-woe in the snow

Joe Hobby
Contributor

One thing that's funny about snow in the South is how we will desperately try to find something to use to slide down an icy hill. Besides the folks who buy 6 gallons of milk and 10 loaves of bread when they see a snowflake, lots of Southerners will begin to search for anything that might give them a chance to take an icy, fast, downhill ride.

Most of the time their creations fail - but it's usually because there's not enough snow on the ground. Hey, even an Olympic bobsled won't work in an eighth-inch of snow.

However, on the rare occasion when we get a substantial amount of the white stuff, people will pull out you-name-it: garbage can lids, pieces of laminate, a cookie sheet, inner tubes, dog beds, even a cardboard box wrapped in a garbage bag, to joy ride down a steep, slick incline.

Fortunately for me and my three boys, years ago I built a nice wooden homemade sled. I even nailed a couple of flat curtain rods to the bottom, which made that sucker really fast. Most of the time it hung on a basement wall, patiently waiting.

Its time finally came during the winter storm of 1993. We had a heavy accumulation of snow, so I brought the sled down, wiped it off and coated the runners with Turtle Wax.

We had a perfect sledding hill behind our house - a small, paved, dead-end road, about a quarter-mile long. Once the snow fell and it iced over, we made a short walk through a field and headed to the top. It was go-time.

I was the first to hit the slope, flying halfway down, until I steered the sled off the road. It was important to avoid the second half of the run because it was a steep incline that dead-ended into what was normally a busy thoroughfare.

There was very little traffic because of the snow; still, you didn't want to risk being hit by a car. I towed the sled back up the hill and walked halfway down to serve as a spotter for my boys. Matt and Jeff, my two oldest, sped down the icy incline perfectly, leaving Brad, my 8-year-old, to take the sled.

And take it he did. Determined to better his older brothers, Brad pushed off hard and began his descent. It was clear from the beginning that he had no control of the sled and was hurtling at an increasing rate of speed. If I didn't stop him, he would make the second half of the slope, and undoubtedly a reach the dangerous intersection.

Maybe it was luck, maybe a father's instinct - whatever it was, I positioned myself directly in the line of the sled, then stepped to one side at the last second and plucked my son off the wooden bullet.

Unfortunately for me, my feet slipped on the ice. To protect Brad from the impact, I held him straight out in my arms, which caused me to plant my face directly onto the road.

It happened so fast. I heard my nose crunch - it sounded like someone had crumpled up a Styrofoam cup.

An explosion of pain radiated from my face; I nearly fainted. I've been in a couple of fights where I got punched in the nose, and that is not a pleasant sensation. This was a hundred times worse - it felt like I had taken a shot from Mike Tyson.

Finally, I rolled into the fetal position to assess the damage. I gently touched my nose and determined it was about twice its normal size. Surely it was broken.

Luckily, I still had all of my teeth, and none of them were loose. Thank heavens - because I wouldn't like to walk around looking like a cast member of "Hee Haw."

I sat up and tried to clear my head, watching the bright red blood dripping from my nose stain the pretty white snow. By now, all three boys were gathered around, staring at me in silence. It had happened so fast.

Finally, my oldest son Matt said, "Dad, are you ok?"

I answered with my new broken nose dialect, "Doe! We'be gotta get tooda house dow."

Once home, a horrified Carol said, "Oh my Lord, what happened?"

I answered, "I pell down onda woad."

Matt interpreted, saying, "Dad grabbed Brad off the sled to keep him from crashing and slipped down."

After a while we stopped the bleeding, and some ice, along with a liberal dose of Tylenol, dulled the pain a bit. The next day, a doctor told me my nose wasn't broken, just badly traumatized.

Tank goodess. I tink I was dust wucky.

Joe Hobby is a barbecue-loving comedian from Alabama who wrote for Jay Leno for many years.

Find more of Joe's stories on his blog: https://mylifeasahobby.blogspot.com. Follow him on Facebook at Joe Hobby Comedian-Writer.

Market (from Front)

way to strengthen their diets and, therefore, their bodies, in a quick and structured environment.

"A lot of the fruits and veggies they will get are often unaffordable at grocery stores, so it allows our neighbors to not have to choose between financial stability and healthy eating," he explained.

Volunteers are also needed for this event and others.

"The Link is always looking for volunteers to make our food bank run more smoothly and provide more food to our community," said Creekmore, "The Park-It Market requires about 10 volunteers to run smoothly."

If you'd like to volunteer, contact Creekmore at 256-775-0028 or jonathancreekmore@linkingcullman.org.

Get more information about The Link and its services at www.linkingcullman.org. The Link is located at 708 Ninth St. SE in Cullman. It is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Food pantry hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.



LEGALS

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

The Cullman County Commission has completed the CDBG County Road 1490 Road Improvement Project (CY-CM-PF-23-002) which constructed improvements to a 2.6-mile section of County Road 1490 which connects in two locations with County Road 1545 in the Gold Ridge Community. Wiregrass Construction Company, Incorporated and J.C. Cheek Contractors gives Notice of Completion of the above referenced project. Any person or party having an unpaid claim against the Contractors listed above for supplying labor, materials, supplies or workmanship on this project should notify the Cullman County Engineering Department, 2883 Highway 69 North, Cullman, Alabama 35058 or by phone at 256-796-2266 within the next thirty days.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SUSAN MARIE FOULKS, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2025-026

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF SUSAN MARIE FOULKS, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Annalee G. Peterson and Lucy Green on the 14th day of February, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Annalee G. Peterson and Lucy Green
Joint Personal Representatives

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Personal Representatives
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

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

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

BRUCE ELLARD
Personal Representative

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

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

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

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

HE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO PROBATE WILL AND FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY

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

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

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

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

Done this the 23rd day of January, 2025.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

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

HE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

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

CODY JOHNS AND TAYLOR JOHNS
Personal Representative

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

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CHARLES LEON MOTTE, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2025-047

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to Carla Dooley Motte as Personal Representative of the Estate of Charles Leon Motte, deceased, on the 14th day of February, 2025, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Carla Dooley Motte
Personal Representative

ALEXANDER M. SMITH
ATTORNEY AT LAW
POST OFFICE BOX 8
ONEONTA, ALABAMA 35121
(205) 625-5505

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

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

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

HE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

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

BRITTIANY N. ROMERO
Personal Representative

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

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF RONALD LAVERNE WHITE, Deceased. **Case Number: PC2025-041**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Ronald Laverne White, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 14th day of February 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Wanda White
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

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

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 March 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. Rezoning request on Dripping Springs Road NW & Marie Street NW – R-3 to R-4
2. Short form subdivision – 303 Rosemont Avenue SW – create two lots
3. Short form subdivision – Stadium Drive NE – create two lots
4. Preliminary Subdivision - Noble Ridge Subdivision Phase II
5. Short form subdivision – 105 1st Avenue NE – combine two lots into one lot

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

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256-352-2221

State (from Front)

through a vending machine" and "require a one-time application fee and an annual permit fee for the distribution of those products, and would provide for the distribution of those fees."

The panel also discussed the CHOOSE Act, which was passed in 2024. The Associated Press reported, "The CHOOSE Act, or Creating Hope and Opportunity for Our Students' Education Act of 2024, will provide eligible families with as much as $7,000 in state money through education savings accounts for private school tuition or costs at a participating school. Parents could also get up to $2,000 for home school expenses... The program is initially open only to families with an adjusted gross income at or below 300% of the federal poverty level, or $77,460 for a family of three. The income limit will go away in 2027."

There has been intense debate over the CHOOSE Act, which opponents say will divert millions from public school funding across the state. Some also say it disproportionately affect counties that do not have private schools.

Another major topic of discussion at the luncheon was prison reform. It has been acknowledged that overcrowding is an issue, and sentencing guidelines must be balanced with maintaining order.

Two new super prisons are under construction, but cost concerns remain. On Feb. 13, The Alabama Political Reporter reported, "The Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund Committee on Wednesday gave a favorable report to legislation that would allow the state to borrow up to $500 million more in order to complete its construction of two prisons, potentially driving the total borrowed amount up $1.28 billion for the construction of the two facilities in Elmore and Escambia counties.

"These island prisons are rough. You know, I mean, the people in these prisons, they've done something to get there. And we all agree they need to be there.

"But we also have to remember that they are human. And they have families, somebody at home that loves them, too," stated Harbison.

Efforts are being made to expand public-private partnerships to address labor shortages across the state, the panel said, with a focus on implementing the Working for Alabama package, which it said includes initiatives like a childcare tax credit to support working families.

The Legislature is also considering pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform to ensure fair pharmacy reimbursements. Two rival Senate bills are targeting eliminating unfair pricing structures that harm independent pharmacies already struggling to remain open. The panel said protecting access to essential medication remains important, especially in rural areas.

The 2025 Legislative Session is ongoing.

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 15-17

Mildred Idella "Chic" Frank, 98
Funeral service for Mildred Idella "Chic" Glasscock Frank, 98, of Cullman will be at 1 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2025, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Rev. John Bussman officiating. The family will receive friends at the church from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Born Nov. 14, 1926, to Arch & Mary Glasscock, and raised in the Berlin area. She attended Oak Level Elementary School and graduated from Fairview High School in 1946. She married Fred Frank in 1947 and lived in the East Point area for the rest of her life. They were farmers. She loved her Lord, church, family and home. She enjoyed working with her flowers and just being outside. She faithfully was a caregiver to her husband for many years when he became disabled. She loved to travel, go to gospel singings and country music. Marty Robbins, Elvis, and Alabama football were some of her favorite things along with coffee with friends. She was civic minded and worked with the election polls for many years. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Fred Frank, Sr.; son, Fred Frank, Jr.; three sisters and one brother and their spouses; one sister-in-law, one nephew. Survivors include a brother, Kenneth Glasscock; six nieces and their spouses; one nephew and his spouse; host of great and great-great nieces and nephews, family and friends.

Roy Brenman Bewley, 79
Roy Brenman Bewley, of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away on Feb. 14, 2025, at the age of 79. Mr. Bewley was born in Missouri, on April 19, 1945, to the late Roy Nelson and Juanita Creasy Bewley. Roy was a veteran of the Vietnam War. Mr. Bewley served our nation honorably, with a career of over seventeen years, in the United States Army. Mr. Bewley was also an over-the-road truck driver, retiring after 30 years. Mr. Bewley is preceded in death by his parents; grandson, Jackson Lambert; brother, Bishop Bewley; and sister, Lavella Dornan. Those left to cherish Mr. Bewley's memory includes his wife, Terri Welsh Bewley; daughters, Michelle Adams (Randal), Nicole Thomas (James); grandchildren, Morgan Lambert (Cody), Bo Thomas, Kaylin Cox (Skylar), Cory Adams; great-grandchildren, Gunner Cox, Brayden Cox, Brycen Cox, and coming soon, Salter Banks; brother, Jimmy Bewley (Kathy); sister, Hilda Caudle (Howard); favorite mother-in-law, Dorothy Horton; and very special friend, J.D. Landman. Friends are invited to join the family on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2025, from noon until 1 p.m. for a time of visitation, with funeral services immediately following. Services will be held in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel with Don Froelich officiating. Burial will follow services in Brooklyn Cemetery where Randal Cox, Jeff Graul, Cody Banks, James Thomas, Bo Thomas, and Cory Adams will serve as pallbearers. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Bewley family.

Brenda Horsley Scott, 80
Brenda Horsley Scott, 80, of Cullman, Alabama, entered into the presence of our Lord and Savior on Feb. 14, 2025. Friends are invited to visit with the family on Tuesday evening, Feb. 18, 2025, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Mrs. Brenda will lie in state on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025, from 1 p.m. until services begin at 2 p.m. Both visitation and funeral services will be held at Brenda's beloved church home, Pleasant View Baptist Church. Burial will follow services in Holly Pond Cemetery. A complete obituary will be released at a later time. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Scott family.

Helen B. Thornton, 87
Helen Thornton, age 87 of Cullman, passed away on Friday, Feb. 14, 2025. She was born Dec. 20, 1937, to Oscar Lenning and Bessie Tucker Lenning. She was preceded in death by her parents and step father, Grady Cagle; husband, Earnest Thornton; son, Clifford Thornton; son, Terry Thornton; infant son, Denise Thornton; brother, Larry Lenning; and granddaughter, Mandi Thornton. Survivors include daughter, Sandra (Charles) Brawner; daughter-in-law, Pat (Clifford) Thornton; daughter-in-law, Michelle (Terry) Thornton; son, Edward Thornton; son, Henry (Debra) Thornton; half-brother, Richard (Linda) Lenning; and host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends. Services for Mrs. Thornton will be Tuesday, February 18, 2025, visitation will be from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, followed by a private graveside service.

Eva Mae Harrison, 70
Eva Mae Harrison, age 70 of Cullman, passed away on Monday, Feb. 17, 2025, at her residence. She was born, May 15, 1954, to Leonard Cornelius Harrison and Myrtie Ree Turner Harrison. She was preceded in death by her parents; nephew, Michael Amos Griffin and several aunts and uncles. Survivors include her sister, Nancy Moore; nephew, Tim (Katrina) Griffin; great nephews, Brayden Latham and Connor Lee Griffin; great nieces, Bailey Griffin (Houston) Gardner and Annabella Rose Griffin; great great niece, Lainey Kate Garner and a host of cousin's, family and friends.

Rev. Rayford Glenn Ponder, 75
Rev. Rayford Glenn Ponder, age 75, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025. Ray was a loving father and grandfather. He served as a minister of the Gospel faithfully for 50 Years, he worked as an electrician as well as serving as the building inspector for the city of Cullman. Ray served his country as a United States Marine in the Vietnam conflict. He is well known for his love of people and always had some candy to share with those he met. Ray is survived by his beloved wife, Judy Ponder; his son Brian Ponder (Devan); his daughter Angela Woodall (Derrick) his grandchildren Joshua Ponder, Erika Woodall and Katie Woodall; his sister Sheila Richards (David); and his brothers Gaylon Ponder & Roger Ponder (Ninet). Ray was preceded in death by his parents Harless & Hazel Ponder. A celebration of life visitation for Ray will be held Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025, from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055, followed by a celebration of life funeral service at 6:30 p.m. Rayford will be laid to rest in New Prospect Baptist Church Cemetery, 5625 County Road 38, Cullman, AL 35057. To leave condolences for the Ponder family visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Free Obituary Listings

Have your funeral home contact us

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

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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 18, 2025

Living Free in Christ Women's Conference set for March 8 in Hanceville

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Women from the community are invited to attend the Living Free in Christ Women's Conference on Saturday, March 8, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Trinity Pentecostal Church of Hanceville. This free event offers a day of worship, encouragement and fellowship, featuring inspirational speakers, worship music, Christian comedy, drama presentations, lunch and special blessing gifts for attendees.

The conference, organized by Melissa Kay Garrison, co-pastor of Trinity Pentecostal Church, is designed to uplift and empower women in their faith.

"The inspiration for this conference is to bring women together to lift one another up," Garrison said.

"We want every woman to know that we can truly live free if we live free in Christ."

Guest speakers include Garrison, Doris Foley and Marci Turner, each bringing a unique message of faith and encouragement.

Garrison will focus on helping women realize their identity in Christ, while Foley, the church's ladies' ministry leader, will encourage women to trust God through life's storms, reminding them that He is present even when they don't see or feel Him.

Foley will also provide entertainment through some light-hearted Christian comedy for the ladies to enjoy.

Turner will speak on healing from past wounds, offering encouragement to those who have experienced trauma or hardship, helping them find healing and freedom through Christ.

The conference will also feature worship music led by Turner and guests from Journey Church, along with drama presentations by the Awakened Drama Team from Lifepoint Church.

Lunch will be provided at no cost, featuring sub-style sandwiches, chips, dessert and drinks.

Each attendee will also receive a blessing bag with gifts.

For more information, contact Melissa Garrison at 256-531-2982.

To help with planning, attendees are encouraged to RSVP by messaging Garrison to ensure an accurate headcount.

The Living Free in Christ Women's Conference will take place at Trinity Pentecostal Church, 307 Whaley Ave, Hanceville. Admission is free and all women are welcome.





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