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The Cullman Tribune

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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

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PREP BASKETBALL

'It was an opportunity we just felt we couldn't pass up'

Coach Drew Adams headed to Cold Springs

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — After serving the last nine seasons at the helm of Good Hope's varsity boys' basketball program, head coach Drew Adams is headed for a new destination. Adams confirmed that he was officially hired by Cold Springs High School on Wednesday and is set to take the reins of the Eagles' varsity boys' program. For Adams, there were several factors in making this decision but the biggest one in his mind was how it would affect his family life. His wife Paige Adams was recently pro- » PAGE 5



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Former Good Hope Head Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach Drew Adams is headed to Cold Springs as the Eagles' next head coach.

'This is more than a garden'

East Elementary Garden Club hosts 'Garden Baby Shower'



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Pictured are (front row): Magnolia Heatherly and Emmie Kate Heatherly; (middle row): Wyatt Norris, Noah White, Jayce Jones, Corbin Hudson, Annabell Ray, Foster Jackson and Annika Frohne; (back row): Kenzli Springer, Kinsley Duncan, Leeanna Smith, Madison Vaughan, Guy Caffey, Brooklyn Thompson, Isabella Moss and Silke Frohne.

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The East Elementary Garden Club on Friday, April 11, hosted a "Garden Baby Shower" to raise funds and gather new gardening supplies.

The event offered numerous springtime activities, like an Easter Egg hunt and Easter cookie decorating. In honor of Cullman's rich German history, children decorated Easter eggs to hang on an Ostereierbaum tree, a German Easter tradition. Plenty of spring-themed desserts were offered, including a beautiful cake from Widlöcher's.

The event was organized by East Elementary teacher and Outdoor Classroom and Garden Club Sponsor Leeanna Smith, who shared, "This was a fundraiser for our school garden — we called it a 'Garden Baby Shower' to celebrate all the new life that comes in spring. We've seen so much wildlife come through the garden in the past, so we thought, why not throw a baby shower to welcome the new season and raise support?"

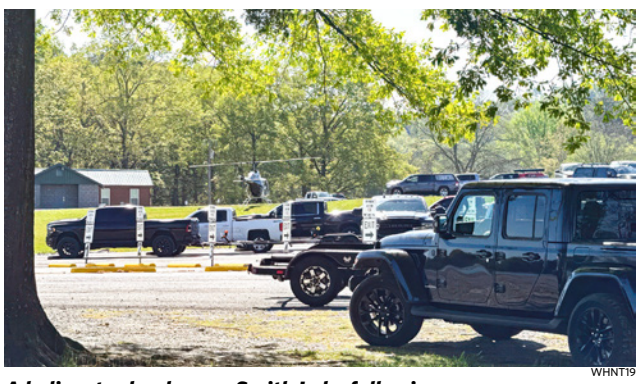
The East Elementary Garden Club is a way for children to learn about nature in a safe and fun environment. "Children need to be outside — they need to run, dig, explore and learn where their food comes from. This is more than a garden. It's a place where kids learn about ecosystems, life cycles and how to take care of the world around them," said Smith.

Operating in the spring, summer and fall, the Garden Club offers plenty of opportunities for hands-on learning for most of the year. Only 30 students can join the club in the fall and spring because there is only one sponsor, but in the summer, the club is open to all East Elementary students and families, with adult supervision. Students gain experience in garden maintenance, planting and harvesting. The Garden Club offers a unique educational experience, teaching children the farm-to-table process and observing and caring for new life. It also gives children plenty of healthy outdoor experiences.

"We want them to see that new life isn't just something you read about — it's something you can grow, nurture and protect," Smith explained.

With funds raised, the club plans to purchase new dirt for planting, fill a new strawberry pyramid, stock the greenhouse with new plants, install a new underwater pump for aeration (supporting fish and tadpoles) and add new raised » PAGE 5

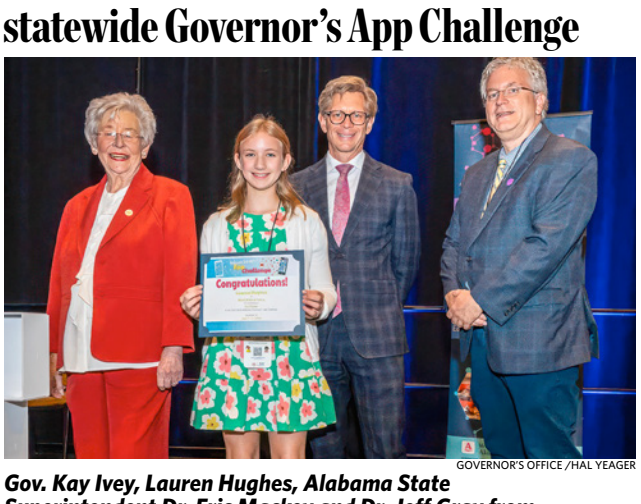
3 victims identified in Smith Lake boat crash



WHNT19

A helicopter lands near Smith Lake following Wednesday morning's boat crash. » PAGE 7

West Elementary's Lauren Hughes wins statewide Governor's App Challenge



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE /HAL YEAGER

Gov. Kay Ivey, Lauren Hughes, Alabama State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey and Dr. Jeff Gray from the University of Alabama Computer Science Department at the Governor's Computer Science Summit Luncheon Monday April 14, 2025, in Montgomery » PAGE 5

Annual event honors area schools, educators, students

» PAGE 5

PET OF THE WEEK

Beautiful, vibrant Pearl



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Pearl » PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported April 16

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported April 16, 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

April 14

• theft of property-1st degree; Bill Smith Buick GMC; '25 GMC Yukon; $87,760; 2nd Ave. NW

April 15

• theft of property-4th degree; West End Laundromat; garbage can; $30; 4th St. SW

• theft of property-4th degree; criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $37; Hwy. 157

ARRESTS

April 14-15

Moore, Stacey D.; 45

• FTA – insurance violation

• FTA – driving while suspended

Carnes, Reese I.; 23

• FTA – public intoxication

Byess, Dawn C.; 45

• FTA – theft of property-4th degree (3 counts)

• FTA – driving while suspended

Pearson, Juwan I.; 28

• FTA – domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment

Malone, Grady A.; 52

• FTA – driving while suspended

Johnson, Christian S.; 27

• FTA – disorderly conduct

• FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree

• FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Durant, Deborah J.; 73

• theft of property-4th degree

Smith, Trenten D.; 30

• FTA – resisting arrest

• FTA – failure to obey police order

• FTA – theft of property-4th degree (7 counts)

• FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree (5 counts)

• FTA – public intoxication

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Sip, paint and plant your way into spring at Bloom Winery!

Katie Spicer
katie@cullmantoday.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Bloom Winery opened in Rogersville in the summer of 2021 with a goal of becoming a place where friends gather and memories are made. Today, Bloom has three north Alabama locations: Rogersville, Brownsboro and Good Hope.

The Good Hope location, which opened last year, will host a Paint Your Own Teacup Planter event on Tuesday, April 29, from 5:30-7 p.m. For $14, each attendee will receive a teacup and saucer, paints and brushes, and soil and seeds.

Wine and wood-fired pizza will be available for purchase on-site. A full menu can be previewed online at www.bloomwinery.com.

The staff at Bloom Winery encourages the whole community to get involved. Said Owner Bella Cornelius Tripp, "This is a fun, springtime event geared towards groups of ladies looking for a creative outing. Guests will paint their own ceramic teacup planter to take home – perfect for a girls' day, mother-daughter time or solo treat-yourself moment."

Bloom Winery is located at 1849 County Road 222 in Good Hope.

Get tickets at https://tinyurl.com/teacupplanter.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Good Hope Public Cemetery Decoration Weekend clean-up announcement

Good Hope Public Cemetery will hold its annual Decoration Weekend on Saturday, May 3, and Sunday, May 4. Please have all old worn flowers and decorations removed from the cemetery by Sunday, April 27. Any flowers and decorations remaining after April 27, will be subject to removal by cemetery maintenance with respect to condition. We ask that all new flowers and decorations be kept as close to the monuments as possible to aid in mowing. Solar lights are not allowed unless they are directly in a flower arrangement. Donations to the cemetery can be sent to Good Hope Public Cemetery, P.O. Box 355 Cullman, AL 35056 or placed in the donation box on site. Donations are tax deductible and are essential to pay for cemetery upkeep.

SAVE THE DATE! Little Pink Dress Benefit

Tuesday, Oct. 7, from 6-9 p.m. at The Venue at Stone Bridge Farms. Table for eight for $450. Tickets available from Jennifer Limerick (256-201-2521 or jenniferalrealtor@gmail.com) or Judy Grissom (256-347-5993 or options5993@gmail.com) or www.CullmanBosomBuddies.com. Benefits the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation.

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: Broken Heart for Repair

For more information, 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

• Friday, April 18 - 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! Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.

• Saturday, April 19 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank

• Saturday, April 19 – 1-3 p.m. Easter celebration

• Sunday, April 20 - 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.

At the Foot of the Cross Church Singing

Saturday, April 19, at 5 p.m. at the church, 2101 County Road 1435 (Eva Road), Vinemont. Featuring Family Tradition.

Cullman Farm-City Committee Meeting

Please join us for the first Farm-City Committee meeting of the year on Monday, April 21, at 11:30 a.m. in the Cullman County Economic Development boardroom at 325 Second St. SE. Lunch provided if you RSVP by Friday, April 18. RSVP to Tiffany at toldacre@co.cullman.al.us or 256-962-3657.

Ladies' Conference

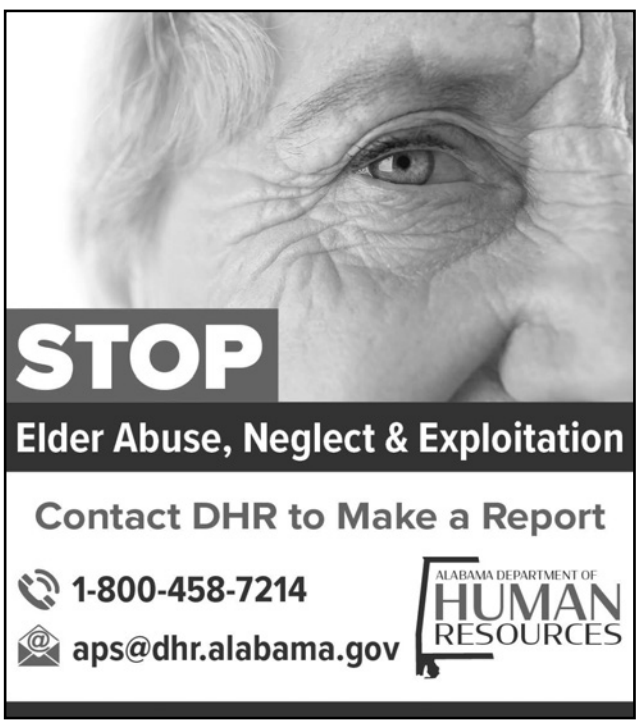
Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., with lunch at noon. At The Foot Of The Cross Church, 2101 County Road 1435 in Vinemont. Guest speaker Kristy Garrison Harris: Trusting God through every season. There will be games and door prizes. Please join us.

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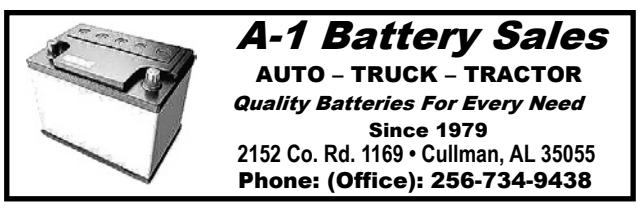
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PREP SOFTBALL

Good Hope picks up 8-4 area win at Danville; Tuesday scoring recap

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

DANVILLE, Ala. — Good Hope hit the road for an area matchup at Danville on Tuesday and after jumping out to an early lead, the Raiders fended off the Hawks in the final two innings to secure an 8-4 win.

After a scoreless first inning, Good Hope took the lead in the top of the second. Molly Benefield led off the inning with a double and Addyson Burgess followed with a single to put runners on the corners. Two pitches later, Brooklyn Lambert drove an RBI single to left field to give the Raiders a 1-0 lead. A sacrifice bunt by Maggie O'Neil allowed another run to score and Lizzy Steed lined another RBI single to left field to put Good Hope ahead 3-0.

The Raiders added to their lead in the top of the third. An error allowed Molly Johnson to score and make it a 4-0 game and later in the inning, Natalie Miller knocked an RBI single into center field to extend the lead to 5-0. After a scoreless fourth inning, Good Hope tacked on another run in the top of the fifth when Gracie Garmon scored on a fielder's choice, stretching the lead to 6-0.

Danville plated three runs in the bottom of the fifth to cut the lead to 6-3 but Good Hope got one of the runs back with an RBI single from Haley Lay in the top of the sixth. A solo home run from the Hawks trimmed the lead to 7-4 in the bottom half of the sixth but the Raiders responded in the top of the seventh. Steed line an RBI double into right field to drive in another run and put Good Hope in front 8-4. The Raiders collected the final three outs in the bottom of the seventh and returned home with an 8-4 area win over Danville.

Steed finished with two hits and two RBIs in the win. Miller (one RBI), Burgess and Benefield each added a pair of hits as well.

The Raiders will be back home on Thursday for another area matchup with Danville.

Hanceville 16 – J.B. Pennington 4 (Softball)
The Bulldogs fell behind 2-0 in the top of the first, but they trimmed the lead to 2-1 in the bottom half of the inning with an RBI single from Josi Jones. The Tigers pulled ahead 3-1 in the top of the second, but Hanceville tied things up in the bottom of the third. Alex Twitty scored on a fielder's choice to cut the lead to 3-2 and Jones scored on a passed ball to tie the game at 3 going into the fourth.

The Bulldogs moved ahead 5-3 in the bottom of the fourth when Lakin McBee scored on a passed ball and Kynzlee Farr scored on a wild pitch.

Pennington plated one run in the top of the fifth to make it a 5-4 game but that was as close as the Tigers got the rest of the way.

A 2-run single off the bat of Zoe Pitts put Hanceville in front 7-4 in the bottom of the fifth and a bases-loaded walk brought in McBee to make it 8-4. Another RBI single from Jones stretched the lead to 9-4 and after Bella Spinks doubled into center field, an error allowed three more runs to score, giving Hanceville a 12-4 lead going into the sixth.

In the bottom of the sixth, Farr was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded, extending the lead to 13-4 and Twitty knocked a triple into center field to plate three more runs and wrap up a 16-4 win for the Bulldogs.

Spinks posted four hits and a pair of RBIs in the win and Twitty recorded two hits with four RBIs. Jones (one RBI) added a pair of hits as well.

Winston County 9 – Cold Springs 2 (Softball)
The Yellow Jackets scored one run in the first, two more in the second and another in the third to take an early, 4-0 lead over Cold Springs. The Eagles got on the board in the top of the fourth when Kayleigh Light drove an RBI double into center field, trimming the lead to 4-1. Later in the inning, Cloe Shelton lifted another RBI double to center to push another run across the plate and make it a 4-2 game.

However, that was as close as Cold Springs would get to the lead the rest of the way. Winston County tacked on three more runs in the bottom half of the fourth to pull ahead 7-2 and added two more in the fifth to wrap up a 9-2 win over the Eagles.

Light (one hit) and Shelton (one hit) each posted an RBI in the loss.

Mortimer Jordan 6 – Cullman 5 (Softball)
The Blue Devils jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first, but the Bearcats battled back. Samantha Johnson drove an RBI double into left field to trim the lead to 3-1 in the top of the second and in the third, Hattie Graham blasted a 2-run bomb over the center field fence to tie the game at 3 going into the fourth inning.

An RBI single from Abby Maples gave Cullman a 4-3 lead in the top of the fourth but Mortimer Jordan responded with a pair of runs in the bottom half of the inning to move back in front 5-4. After a scoreless fifth inning, the Blue Devils tacked on another run in the sixth to pull ahead 6-4. The 'Cats gave themselves a chance in the top of the seventh, cutting the lead to one with an RBI single from Summer Storey but they couldn't chip away any more than that and Mortimer Jordan held on to win it 6-5.

Graham led the way at the plate with three hits and a pair of RBIs in the loss. Storey (one RBI), Johnson (one RBI) and Dracen Bates each posted a pair of hits as well.

Locust Fork 2 – Vinemont 1 (Softball)
Runs were hard to come by in this one. After four scoreless innings to start the game, Locust Fork was able to score a pair of runs in the bottom of the fifth to take a 2-0 lead. An RBI single from Bryleigh Basinger drove in Abby Kuykendall and cut the lead to 2-1 in the top of the sixth but it was the only run Vinemont was able to score and the Hornets held on to win a pitcher's duel, 2-1.

Tori Vines and Kuykendall each recorded a pair of hits in the loss. Vines also pitched six innings in the loss, allowing two runs on seven hits and striking out nine batters.

Lawrence County 15 – West Point 0 (Softball)
The Lady Warriors had a tough time getting anything going offensively at Lawrence County on Tuesday as West Point was held to just three hits in a 15-0 loss to the Red Devils.

Lauren Windham recorded a pair of hits in the loss and Macie Brown posted West Point's other hit.

PREP BASEBALL

Cold Springs cruises past Meek 13-3; Monday scoring recap

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

BREMEN, Ala. — After clinching a spot in the playoffs last week, the Cold Springs Eagles looked to keep the momentum going at home against Meek on Monday afternoon. Cold Springs took the early lead in the first inning and never relinquished it as they went on to defeat Meek 13-3.

The Eagles struck first in the bottom of the first inning. They quickly put runners on the corners to lead off the inning, and back-to-back RBI singles by Cooper Johnson and Matt Williams gave them a 2-0 lead.

Johnson scored on a fielder's choice by Boston Archer to make it 3-0. The Tigers cut it to 3-1 on a ground ball in the top of the second, but Cold Springs got that run back in their half. Brady Phillips hit a one-out triple and later scored on a ground ball by Ayden Black to extend their lead to 4-1.

Lindan Hill scored on an error in the bottom of the third to put the Eagles ahead, 5-1, but Meek made it 5-3 on an RBI triple and a passed ball in the top of the fourth. Black scored on an error to make it 6-3 in the bottom of the fourth. Cold Springs quickly ended things in the bottom of the sixth.

They loaded the bases to lead off the inning, and Brandon Chasteen and Brady Phillips each scored on a passed ball to give them an 8-3 lead. Hill and Mason Gable each drew bases-loaded walks to make it 10-3. Bennett Phillips followed that up with an RBI single to extend their lead to 11-3, and later that inning, a two-run single by Brady Phillips put the finishing touches on a 13-3 win for the Eagles.

Brady Phillips finished with four hits and a pair of RBIs for Cold Springs. Williams added a pair of hits and two RBIs. Black, Johnson, Gable, and Bennett Phillips all collected a hit and an RBI in the contest, while Hill and Archer each ended up with an RBI of their own in the win. Black went all six innings in the win for the Eagles, as he gave up five hits, two earned runs, walked one, and struck out four.

Cullman 9 - East Lawrence 4 (Softball)
The game started out as a pitcher's duel through the first 2 1/2 innings, but Cullman's offense cracked the scoreboard first in the bottom of the third. They loaded the bases with nobody out, and Reese Hopper hit a two-run single to give the Lady Bearcats the early 2-0 lead. Hattie Graham later stole home to make it 3-0.

East Lawrence hit an RBI double and later scored on an error to cut it to 3-2 in the top of the fifth, but Cullman quickly broke the game wide open in their half.

A single, a double, and a walk loaded the bases with one out, and Summer Storey ripped a two-run single to center field to give them a 5-2 lead. Kynlei Storey and Summer Storey both scored on an error to stretch their lead to 7-2. Abby Maples lined a two-run double to center field to put the Lady Bearcats ahead, 9-2. A two-run home run by the Lady Eagles made it a 9-4 game in the top of the seventh, and after giving up a single, Summer Storey quickly recorded the final three outs of the game to help persevere the 9-4 win for Cullman.

Maples (two hits), Hopper (two hits) and Summer Storey (one hit) all drove in a pair of runs for the Lady Bearcats.

West Point 6 - West Morgan 5 (Baseball)
West Point gave starter Josh Cherry some early run support. Boston Freeman drew a leadoff walk, and back-to-back RBI doubles by Titan Thornton and Charlie Ashley gave the Warriors a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning. West Morgan, though, tied the game up at two on an error and a bases-loaded walk in the top of the second. West Point broke the tie in their half.

They put a pair of runners on the corners with one out, and two pitches later, Thornton hit an RBI single to left field to give them a 3-2 lead. Later that inning, Jay Lamar hit an RBI single of his own to extend their lead to 4-2. The Rebels hit an RBI single in the top of the third to trim the deficit to 4-3.

The Warriors cooked up a two-out rally in the bottom of the fourth. Ashley drew a walk, and Lamar hit a single to put runners on the corners. Cade Welborn ripped a two-run triple to right field to put them ahead 6-3. West Morgan scored on a passed ball in the top of the fifth to cut it to 6-4 and made things really interesting in the top of the seventh. Back-to-back errors by West Point put runners on the corners with one out. An RBI single made it a one-run game, but Lamar got the next batter to ground into a game-ending double play, as that helped seal the 6-5 win for the Warriors.

Thornton (two hits) and Welborn (one hit) each drove in a pair of runs for West Point, while Ashley and Lamar each added a pair of hits and an RBI.

West Morgan 1 - Good Hope 0 (Softball)
Good Hope and West Morgan engaged in a pitcher's duel, and the game ended up being decided in the seventh inning. Through six innings, both teams had their chances to crack the scoreboard, but both pitchers were able to get out of their respective jams. In the seventh inning, the Lady Raiders put runners on first and second with two outs after a fielder's choice, but a line out quickly ended the inning. West Morgan quickly loaded the bases to start out their half, and an RBI single on the first pitch gave the Lady Rebels a 1-0 win over Good Hope.

Lizzy Steed, Campbell Koch, Haley Lay, and Addyson Burgess all collected a hit for the Lady Raiders.

Locust Fork 8 - Hanceville 3 (Softball)
The game was scoreless going into the bottom of the third inning, but Locust Fork quickly changed that in their half. The Lady Hornets batted around and put up seven runs to take a 7-0 lead. Hanceville got on the scoreboard in the top of the fifth inning.

Karrigan Pipkin reached on an error to lead off the inning, and a single moved her over to third with one out. Pipkin later stole home to cut it to 7-1. Locust Fork made it 8-1 on an RBI single in their half, but the Lady Bulldogs trimmed the deficit to 8-3 on a two-run single by Josi Jones in the top of the sixth. They wouldn't get any closer after that, though, as the Lady Hornets ended up defeating Hanceville, 8-3.

Jones finished with the two-run single for the Lady Bulldogs. Kynzlee Farr added a pair of hits, while Laila Lewis, Alex Twitty and Zoe Pitts all collected a hit of their own in the loss.

Susan Moore 11 - Vinemont 0 (Baseball)
It was all Susan Moore in this matchup against Vinemont and the Eagles were no-hit in an 11-0 loss to the Bulldogs.

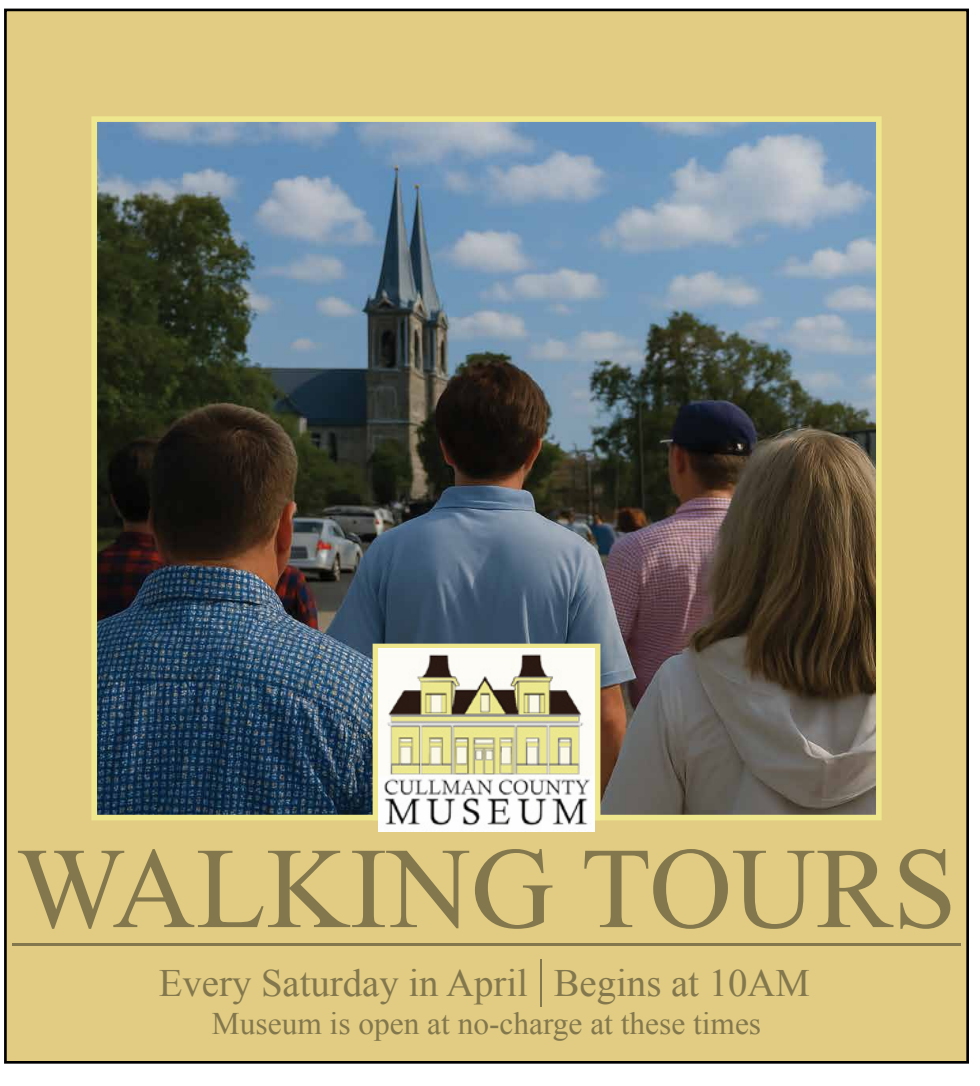
Hayden 4 - West Point 2 (Softball)
West Point cracked the scoreboard first in the top of the second. They loaded the bases with one out, and Zailee Love hit an RBI single to right field to give the Lady Warriors a 1-0 lead. Hayden, though, hit a two-run run in the bottom of the third to take a 2-1 lead.

Brayley Phillips drew a leadoff walk for West Point in the top of the fourth, and Alissa Stephenson, the pinch-runner for her, moved up to second on a single and to third on a fielder's choice by Love.

Bai McSwain's ground ball drove in Stephenson, as that tied the game up at two. The Lady Wildcats broke the tie in their half, as an error and a ground ball gave them a 4-2 lead. West Point couldn't get anything going after that, as they ended up dropping their game to Hayden 4-2.

Love (one hit) and McSwain each drove in a run for the Lady Warriors. Kortni Baker added a pair of hits, while Katie Yovino and Macie Brown each collected a hit of their own in the loss.





Club (from Front)

beds to grow fruits and vegetables for the school cafeteria.

Monetary donations, gift cards and gardening supplies are accepted if you want to assist with the East Elementary Garden Club. Volunteer opportunities are also available, like the Golden Girls, a group of retirees who regularly assist the club. Summer gardening is open to the public. For STEM day, students will create and share pollinator-friendly plant kits.

The Garden Club plans to host a ribbon-cutting in May to show off the new additions. The club expresses gratitude to all volunteers and support from Operation Round Up, the Cullman City Schools Foundation, Lowe's, Marvin's, the North Alabama Agriplex and various businesses.

To learn more, contact the school at 256-734-2232 or Leeanna Smith at lsmith@cullmancats.net.

Pearl (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Meet Pearl, a Great Pyrenees with badger markings – The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week. This beautiful girl is approximately 1.5 years old. Pearl is classified as having low energy, but she will melt all your problems away!

She loves to sit by your side as she surveys the yard for anything unusual. Her tranquil demeanor is contagious – a perfect remedy for this busy world.

Pearl's adoption fee is just $130 which includes spaying, DHLPP vaccine, Bordetella vaccines, rabies vaccine, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

Pearl is described by her caretaker as "another wonderful soul with trusting eyes...how can I not love her?"

Visit the shelter at 935 Convent Road NE. It's open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

Hughes (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Cullman City Schools student won the statewide Governor's App Challenge, a competition where students across Alabama were tasked with creating their own apps to showcase the use of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education.

West Elementary School fourth-grader Lauren Hughes came in first place in the elementary division in the competition at the Alabama Computer Science Education Summit in Montgomery. Her app, "Presidential Brain Busters," challenged students with fun facts and trivia about U.S. presidents. She was able to showcase her impressive coding skills and creative problem-solving in not only coming up with the idea for the app, but literally building it herself.

Hughes is a shining example of what students can do through STEM education, and Cullman City Schools staff and educators are incredibly proud of her achievement, said a release from the school system.

The Governor's App Challenge is a statewide computer programming competition for Alabama students.

The goal of the challenge is to allow more students to gain recognition for their mastery and application of computer programming and design.

Along with Hughes, West Elementary sixth-grader Kinslee Barnett also competed at the statewide challenge with her app, "Daily Devotions." Both Hughes and Barnett won at their school level and then won in their divisions for Cullman City Schools and at the Alabama School District 6 competition, which earned them both the right to compete at the state level in Montgomery.

Hughes and Barnett were among more than 20 students from the district who developed and designed their own mobile apps. Students worked with Misty Waldrop, Cullman City Schools technology integration coach, to develop their apps.

Adams (from Front)

moted to head coach of the varsity girls' team at Cold Springs and that was when Drew really saw an opportunity begin to take shape.

"I have loved every minute of my nine years at Good Hope and at no point had I ever really thought about going anywhere else or doing anything different. But when the girls job came open at Cold Springs and my wife got the job things sort of shifted in my mind a little bit. We have always wanted to one day be at the same place and with the boys' job being open there was a very rare opportunity for us to not only be at the same place but to be head coaches for the same sport. Combine that with the potential that the Cold Springs basketball program has and the love that their community and administration have for basketball, it was an opportunity we just felt we couldn't pass up as a family," Adams said. "From a family perspective, a few things come to mind. First is we can be with our son Parker so much more November through February. Basketball season is crazy busy and us being head coaches at different schools would be really difficult. I rarely got to see Parker or Paige many weeknights this past season because we were always playing at separate places. Now we can be at the same place on a nightly basis. Secondly, being a head coach can be difficult at times. Us being at the same place and being able to support each other through the ups and downs was important to us. And lastly, getting to have a front row seat to watch Paige starting her journey as the head girls coach at Cold Springs is special to me. I can't wait to watch her get to work with her girls and I'm looking forward to meeting my guys."

Adams led the Raiders to a pair of Sweet 16 appearances and five county championships during his tenure at Good Hope and he'll look back on those years fondly. In addition to all the players he's mentored during that time, Adams also credits the assistant coaches that have been at his side for helping the program achieve that success.

"Man, I don't know where to start when reflecting back on my time at Good Hope. They welcomed me with open arms from day one and I have loved every second there. It truly became home to me. A head coach is only as good as his players and assistants, and I have been so blessed with both. We have been blessed with a group of guys for nearly a decade that work their tails off, compete on a nightly basis, and represented their school proudly each night. We have had an all-state player for seven straight years which is rare for a head coach to get to have. Players win games and we have had some good ones," Adams said. "And I also considered myself to have one of the best support staffs in the state. Working with my dad had been a dream come true. He is a high-level coach, but he is also an elite leader of young men, and he did so much behind the scenes for me, our guys, and our program. Griffin Morris is like a little brother to me. We snagged griffin as soon as he graduated college and he has been a tremendous asset to our program. Griffin's an incredible guy who our guys love, and he has made our program better since the moment he was hired at Good Hope. Both guys love basketball but most importantly they love Jesus and spoke with our guys often about the things that truly matter. I'm thankful for them both."

With the familial connection to Cold Springs, Adams has been able to stay familiar with the Eagles' basketball program and he's excited to get started with a team that he believes has a lot of potential.

"With Paige being at Cold Springs the last several years I have been able to keep up with Cold Springs basketball from afar. We've obviously competed against each other for nine years, but I have kept up with them like I do most of the nearby programs. The Cold Springs Boys program has a lot of potential over the next several years," Adams said. "Their varsity was really young this past year and had a good postseason, their JV team had an extremely good year, and their middle school was county runners-up. You never know what the future holds so I would never speak on what I think will happen but I do think the future is bright and I'm excited to get to work with the guys. My prayer is that I help them reach their potential and that I'm a godly mentor for them on a daily basis."

Event (from Front)

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce hosted the 2025 State of Education Community Luncheon at Wallace State Community College on Friday, April 11. The annual event featured Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff, Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette, and Wallace State Vice President for Advancement and Innovation Suzanne Harbin, on behalf of Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics.

The city school system was recognized for its academic excellence with its second consecutive year of straight A's on the Alabama State Department of Education Report Card. East Elementary School was honored for its selection as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education, one of only five schools in the state to receive the honor in 2024. Cullman City Primary School was also honored for being named a 2024 Safe Schools Initiative Awards Winner, one of six schools in the state to receive the award.

"These recognitions reflect the high expectations set by our board, the dedication of our teachers and administrators and the incredible effort of our students," Kallhoff said. He said over $800,000 has been invested in school safety necessities such as the SRO programs, security cameras and door access systems. Additionally, the system continues its 1-1 technology initiative and the expansion of its STEM and career-readiness programs through dual enrollment and internships.

Barnette shared progress on the key goals of the county school system, including increases in graduation rates and career and college readiness. The system received an A on the Alabama State Department of Education Report Card, with scores for almost all schools improving.

"We're not just preparing students to graduate — we're helping them find their passion and place in the workforce," Barnette said. The "Grow Your Own" teacher initiative was also highlighted, in which high school seniors intern as instructional aides to gain experience working as educators with students. He said the Cullman Area Technology Academy (CATA) has also undergone significant upgrades, such as new machine-shop equipment and an agricultural learning center. Investments have also been made in libraries, ag facilities and security infrastructure.

Harbin spoke about Wallace State's national acclaim. The school was named a Top 10 finalist for the 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, recognizing achievements in graduation rates, workforce alignment and innovative partnerships.

"Our graduation and retention rates reflect the power of our strategic vision — and our students," Harbin said. "We've made it a priority to eliminate barriers and create clear, successful pathways." Wallace also celebrated record enrollment rates, with over 6,400 students in credit-bearing programs and 1,500 in workforce and adult education. Notable program launches include Pharmacy Tech, Nursing Support Technician training and expanded Skills for Success offerings in Heavy Equipment and Logistics.

A highlight of the luncheon was students and educators being recognized for hard work, dedication and achievements.

This year's award winners and nominees include:

Teachers of the Year

- Cullman County Elementary Teacher of the Year Hayley Drake (Vinemont Elementary School)
- Cullman County Secondary Teacher of the Year Amy Whaley (Hanceville Middle School)
- Cullman City Elementary Teacher of the Year April Dean (East Elementary School)
- Cullman City Secondary Teacher of the Year Caroline Lunsford (Cullman High School)
- Wallace State Teacher of the Year Dr. April Sutherland

Students of the Year

- Cullman Area Student of the Year Lana Todd (Holly Pond High School)
- Cullman County CTE Student of the Year Shayla A. Colchado-Reza (Vinemont High School)
- Wallace State Student of the Year Emily Delgado Duarte

Todd and Colchado-Reza were each awarded $1,000 scholarships.

Other CTE Student of the Year nominees

- Nevaeh Green (Cullman High School)
- Evan Dockery (Cullman High School)
- Ava Roper (Holly Pond High School)



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left to right are Cullman County CTE Student of the Year Shayla A. Colchado-Reza, with fellow nominees Ava Roper, Evan Dockery and Nevaeh Green.



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Back row, left to right, are Cullman Area Student of the Year nominees Natalie Miller, Rylan McRay, Connor Crawford, Mia Fortner, Willa Smith and Ava Ray. Front row, left to right, are nominees Evelyn Griffin and Olivia Stallings, with winner Lana Todd. Not pictured: Rebecca Backett

Other Cullman Area Student of the Year nominees

- Ava Ray (Cullman High School)
- Willa Smith (St. Bernard Preparatory School)
- Evelyn Griffin (Cullman Christian School)
- Connor Crawford (West Point High School)
- Olivia Stallings (Hanceville High School)
- Rylan McRay (Vinemont High School)
- Mia Fortner (Fairview High School)
- Natalie Miller (Good Hope High School)
- Rebecca Backett (Cold Springs High School; not in attendance)

COLUMN

‘Hey Siri! Where are we?’

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

Here’s a friendly reminder to all of you travelers hitting the road this spring and summer: your GPS routing system is only as good as the information you put in it. Simply put, if you type in the wrong address, it’s going to take you to the wrong place, not the one you wanted to go. If there’s not a chapter about this in the book called “Traveling for Dummies,” there should be.

What the book probably wouldn’t include is this: if your wife is in charge of putting the address in the Google Maps app, and more importantly, if she’s using the “talk-to-text” feature on her iPhone, you should double check her. I didn’t. And that, my friends, is how the address to Walt Disney World, which was supposed to be Maingate Lane, mistakenly became Marianne Lane on her GPS.

Let me elaborate. After about a 10-hour drive, we were on the outskirts of Orlando, so I asked Carol to put in the final directions to the land of the mouse. Great! The GPS told us we were only 45 minutes away. It had been a long drive; we were tired and ready to call it a day. However, as we got closer to our destination, I begin to wonder how we were being routed to Disney World. You see, the exit we took off the freeway did not look like the land of green grass, sunshine and magical dreams. I didn’t even see a palm tree. What we did see was urban blight, which got worse with each passing block. There were liquor stores, pawnshops and quite a few places with boarded-up windows. I thought I saw the chalk outline of a body. When I asked Carol about our location, she assured me it was the correct address.

“Well, OK. Maybe this is Disney’s way of helping to revitalize a depressed area,” I said. Soon, Google Maps directed me to turn. “Thank the Lord,” I thought. I hoped we were finally leaving this abyss, but we weren’t. We drove another half mile through more squalor until we were told to take the next right turn and arrive at our destination. I complied, although by now I smelled a rat, not a mouse. Carol, looking around wide eyed, also had a change of attitude, declaring, “I’m not getting out of this car.” That’s because we weren’t near Disney or our hotel. Oh no. Marianne Lane was the entrance to an old trailer park. Yes - Google Maps had routed us to an entrance to a trailer park. I thought I heard Siri say, “Let’s get out of here!”

It only took me a few seconds to determine what had happened. Sometimes I’ll use the talk-to-text feature, so I knew it was capable of mistakes; however, never would I ever use it to put an address into a GPS without double checking it. And Carol didn’t. That’s how we ended up in the ‘hood. Still, I needed my pound of flesh, so I feigned ignorance, and said, “Gee whiz, what could have possibly gone wrong? Hey, I’ve got a swell idea. Why don’t you double check Google Maps?”

Carol cross-checked the address with the one my son gave her.

“Uh oh!”

“You put it in wrong, didn’t you?”

She stammered as she tried to come up with an excuse. “Well yeah, but....”

“No buts! Give me that,” I growled. “Unless you want to stay here and ride Crack Mountain or Drug Lords of the Caribbean.”

I grabbed her phone, and saw it for myself. The message from my son said Maingate Lane. And when I toggled to Google Maps - Marianne Lane.

Once I made the correction, I discovered that we were still 35 minutes from our correct destination. Ugh. Not what I wanted to see on a dark, rainy evening after a day on the road.

We drove in silence, except for the monotone voice of the GPS directing us to our correct destination, Maingate Lane. Finally, I saw palm trees and neat strip centers with colorful neon lights. I semipolitely pointed out that there were no boarded-up windows. Our first stop was a Mexican restaurant, not because I wanted Tex-Mex food, but because I knew they would have margaritas.

Note to self: next time fly to Orlando. Sure, it costs more, but peace of mind is worth something.

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.

LEGALS

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: *
T.C.T *
a minor child, DOB: 05-04-2024 * CASE NO: JU-2024-441.03

NOTICE

The Petitioners having made a Motion for Service by Publication on the Biological Parents in the above styled action, it is therefore:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that any unknown father of T.C.T., born on 05-04-2024, respond to the Petition by the 15 day of May, 2025 or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioners.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioners: Andria Sims, 300 1st Ave SE, Ste 104, Cullman, Alabama 35055, 256-775-7757 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 2nd day of April, 2025.

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

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 2nd Day of April 2025
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
APR 02 2025
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: *
T.C.T *
a minor child, DOB: 05-04-2024 * CASE NO: JU-2024-441.03

NOTICE

The Petitioners having made a Motion for Service by Publication on the Biological Parents in the above styled action, it is therefore:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Biological Mother, Erin Kay Tackett, of T.C.T., born on 05-04-2024, respond to the Petition by the 15 day of May, 2025 or thereafter a judgment may be rendered in favor of the Petitioners.

Contact may be made: Attorney for Petitioners: Andria Sims, 300 1st Ave SE, Ste 104, Cullman, Alabama 35055, 256-775-7757 or Clerk of Court: Lisa McSwain, 500 2nd Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this the 2nd day of April, 2025.

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

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this 2nd Day of April 2025
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
APR 02 2025
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: ESTATE OF
WILLIAM JEFFREY BROTZGE, Deceased. CASE NO: PC 2024-258

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to BARBARA J. BROTZGE, as Executor of the Estate of WILLIAM JEFFREY BROTZGE, Deceased, on the 8th day of April, 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.

BARBARA J. BROTZGE,
Executor for the Estate of
William Jeffrey Brotzge, Deceased

Richard L. Collins
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 669
Cullman, Alabama 35056
256-739-1962

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, Cullman, Alabama.

TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Barbee Truck Sales, LLC,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) Case No. DV 24-900515
Linda G. Isbell,)
Defendant.)

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

To: Linda G. Isbell, Defendant, whose address is unknown.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT

A Complaint for damages has been filed against you for breach of contract in the sum of $7,055.83, plus attorney fees of $250.00, plus all costs of court in this case. You must take immediate action to protect your rights. You are required to mail or hand deliver a copy of a written Answer, either admitting or denying the allegation in the Complaint, to G. Edward Coey, the lawyer for the Plaintiff, whose address is P.O. Box 834, Hanceville, AL 35077. YOUR ANSWER MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED WITHIN (14) FOURTEEN DAYS AFTER THE FINAL PUBLICATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE IN THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE newspaper OR A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE MONEY OR THINGS DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. You must also file the original of your Answer with the Clerk of Court within a reasonable time afterward.

Dated 4-8-25
Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Court
Cullman County, Alabama

Service by Publication:

To the Editor, The Cullman Tribune
Please publish this Notice for once a week for four successive weeks.

Lisa McSwain
Clerk of Court
Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
MICHAEL DANE LOWE * CASE NO. PC2025-070
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: ALEXANDRA WILLIAMS, HEATHER LOWE AND ANY OTHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN RELATIVES OF MICHAEL DANE LOWE, DECEASED.

Petition for Probate of Will for the Estate of Michael Dane Lowe, Deceased, received the 24th day of February, 2025 and made court record the 25th day of February, 2025, by Stephen Clay Lowe, Petitioner, through Attorney Dan J. Willingham, has been scheduled for the **29th day of May, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 1st day of April, 2025.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Dan J. Willingham
Attorney for the Petitioner
413 First Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

LYLA MORRIS CRAFTON,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2025-900084.00**

COREY ALLEN SNELL,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Corey Allen Snell, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Lyla Morris Crafton’s Complaint for Divorce by June 9, 2025 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2025-900084.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 15th day of April, 2025.

Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER’S ATTORNEY:
ANDRIA SIMS
300 FIRST ST SE, SUITE 104
CULLMAN, AL 35055

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

JAMES LAROY GARNER,
Plaintiff

Vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2024-900219.00**

RACHEL RENEE GARNER,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Rachel Renee Garner, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer James Laroy Garner’s Complaint for Divorce by May 31, 2025 or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against her in Case Number 25-DR-2024-900219.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 9th day of April, 2025.

Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER’S ATTORNEY:
JERRY KILGO
413 FIRST ST SW
CULLMAN, AL 35055

2024 Tax Year Delinquent Parcels

In accordance with Title 40, Chapter 10, Code of Ala. 1975 (§40-10-180 through 200), Cullman County Tax Collecting official has authority to auction and sell tax liens on properties for which ad valorem property taxes are delinquent. Effective with the 2024 delinquent property tax, a tax lien auction will take place via an online tax lien auction service, The Zeus Auction Program, on May 6, 2025, beginning at 10:00. To bid in the Cullman County tax lien auction of 2024 ad valorem property taxes, visit https://www.zeusauction.com and follow the instructions to create a bidder account.

Barry Willingham, Revenue Commissioner for The State of Alabama, Cullman County and Municipalities therein.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
BENNIE NATHAN HARVELL, * CASE NO.: PC2025-100
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTRIX

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to April Harvell-Hulse on the 1st day of April, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within time required by law or same will be barred.

April Harvell-Hulse
Personal Representative

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 1052
Cullman, AL 35056
(256) 734-6330

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, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that mortgage dated February 11, 2025, in favor of **Brent Thomson**, and executed by **Robert Lee Kimbrough**, which mortgage was recorded February 14, 2025, in Mortgage Book 2112, Page 202, in the probate records of Cullman County, Alabama; the mortgagee **Brent Thomson** has elected to declare the entire indebtedness secured by said mortgage to be due and payable as provided in said mortgage, and notice is hereby given that pursuant to the law and power of sale contained in said mortgage, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Courthouse in Cullman County Alabama, during the legal hours of sale,(between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.) on May 7, 2025, the following described real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 3, Township 10 South, Range 2 West, and being more particularly described as follows: Commence where the West right of way line of County Road crosses the South line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 3, Township 10 South, Range 2 West; thence North 540 feet, more or less, along the West right of way line of said road to a marked corner, which is the Northeast corner of Lois A. Robinson property, and which is the point of beginning of the property herein conveyed; thence North along the West right of way line of said road a distance of 186 feet; thence in a southwesterly direction in a straight line between two wells a distance of 142 feet to a marked corner; thence South 145 feet; thence in a southeasterly direction 113 feet to the point of beginning, containing one-half (1/2) acre, more or less. Situated, lying and being in Cullman County, State of Alabama.

Better described as follows:

A part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 3, Township 10 South, Range 2 West, and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Southwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 3, Township 10 South, Range 2 West, Cullman County, Alabama; thence South 88 degrees 41 minutes 39 seconds East 354.98 feet to a point on the West right of way of County Road No. 1635; thence North 0 degrees 17 minutes 23 seconds West 343.09 feet to an existing iron on said right of way; thence North 0 degrees 17 minutes 23 seconds West 149.70 feet to an iron ½" capped rebar set on said right of way; thence North 0 degrees 17 minutes 23 seconds West 107.00 feet to a marked corner being the Northeast corner of the "Lois A. Robinson property" and the point of beginning of the property herein conveyed; thence North along the West right of way of said road a distance of 186 feet, more or less, to a point; thence in a Southwesterly direction in a straight line between two wells a distance of 142 feet to a marked corner; thence in a Southerly direction 145 feet to an existing iron; thence in an Easterly direction 113 feet back to the point of beginning, containing .5 acre, more or less.

Property Address: 2501 County Road 1635, Cullman, AL 35058

Said property is commonly known as 2501 County Road 1635, Cullman, AL 35058. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description will control.

Said sale is being made for the purpose of applying the proceeds to the debt secured by the mortgage and the expenses of foreclosure. The auctioneer will give to the purchaser an Auctioneer's deed subject to ad valorem taxes due October 1, 2025, 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 sale will also be subject to any Federal Tax Liens and/or Special Assessments of any nature, if any, which might adversely affect the title to the property. 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. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid on the property.

Pursuant to Section 6-5-248 of the Code of Alabama of 1975, as last amended, I submit the following legally required notice, to-wit: 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 people 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.

BRENT THOMSON, Mortgagee
BY SETH B. THOMPSON, ATTORNEY AND AUCTIONEER
THOMPSON LAW FIRM, LLC
201 SECOND AVENUE SOUTHEAST
CULLMAN, AL 35055.
TELEPHONE (256) 734-4591

Crash (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Three men died as a result of a two-vessel crash that happened at approximately 7:03 a.m. Wednesday, April 16, on day two of Major League Fishing's Tackle Warehouse Invitational on Smith Lake in Cullman County.

Joey M. Broom, 58, of Altoona, was fatally injured when the Center Console vessel he was on board was struck by a Nitro Bass Boat, according to the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA). Broom was pronounced deceased at the scene.

ALEA identified the other two victims as John K. Clark, 44, of Cullman, and Jeffrey C. Little, 62, of Brandon, Mississippi. It said both men were also on board the Center Console vessel.

They "were thrown overboard during the incident. Both individuals drowned and have been pronounced deceased. However, their bodies were recovered near the Miller Flats area of Smith Lake in Cullman County."

The crash occurred near the Miller Flats area of Smith Lake in Cullman County.

No information has been released regarding other passengers or the driver of the Nitro Bass Boat, but Major League Fishing (MLF) in its statement said, "The incident involved one of the event's competing anglers, Flint Davis of Leesburg, Georgia."

As of press time, Troopers with ALEA's Marine Patrol Division were still actively investigating the incident and said that as additional information becomes available, it will be passed along.

Other agencies that responded to the scene and are assisting ALEA include the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Cullman County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Cullman County Dive Team, Cullman County Coroner's Office, Cullman Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the Alabama Fire Marshal's Office and volunteer fire departments from Crane Hill, Bremen, Cold Springs, Logan and Jones Chapel.

MLF released the following statement:
"Major League Fishing (MLF) confirms that a serious boating accident occurred this morning on Lewis Smith Lake during Day 2 of the Tackle Warehouse Invitational. The incident involved one of the event's competing anglers, Flint Davis of Leesburg, Georgia.

"Emergency personnel and local authorities responded immediately and remain on scene managing the situation.

"Out of respect for those involved, and to ensure the accuracy of all information, no further details will be released at this time. MLF is working closely with law enforcement and emergency officials.

"Additional updates will be provided as they are confirmed by the appropriate authorities.

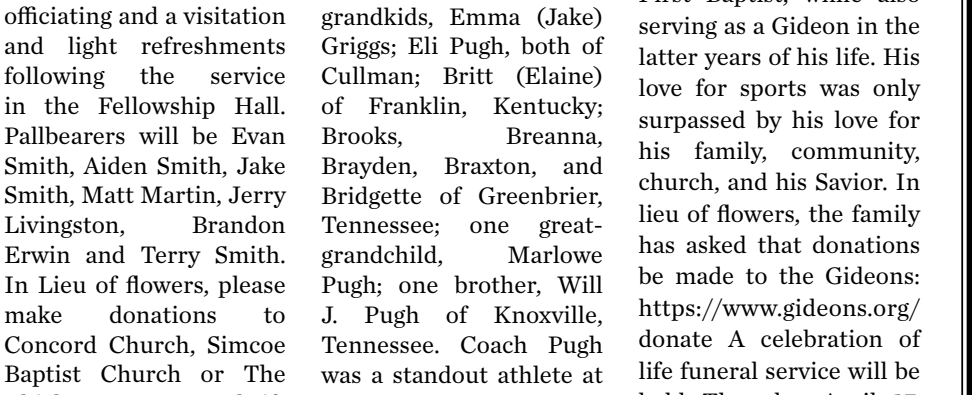
"Our thoughts, prayers and deepest concern are with everyone affected by this tragic incident."

The remainder of the tournament was canceled following the accident.

Later Wednesday, MLF Executive Vice President and General Manager Kathy Fennel said, "This is a heartbreaking moment for our entire organization. Our deepest condolences go out to the families and friends of those affected by this tragedy."







Obituary Announcements: April 15-16

Gerry Wiley Wilhite, 86
Memorial service for Gerry Wiley Wilhite, 86, of Cullman, will be at 12 p.m., Friday, April 18, 2025, at First Baptist Church Cullman, Dr. Edwin Hayes and Dr. Tom Richter officiating. The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. before the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Wilhite was born on June 6, 1938, to parents, William Lewis and Clydia Mae Little Wilhite. Gerry was a member and deacon at First Baptist Church Cullman. He grew up in Cullman, graduating from Cullman High School and was a veteran of the US Army. He worked for Griffen Wheel in Bessemer and in Iowa and was the owner of Wilhite Carpet Service. He loved antiques and Alabama football. Mr. Wilhite was preceded in death by his parents; son, James Carroll, brother, William Wilhite, sister, Betty Calvert. Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Bonnie Wilhite; daughters, Cindy (Chris) Sandlin, Alison (Corrie) Stott, Amanda (Brett) King; grandchildren, Joshua (Lindsey) Stott, Amy (Jason) Andrade, Emily Sandlin (Taylor Brown), Tori King (Robin Sanders), Alex (Kevin) Shaw; great-grandchildren, Jackson and William Andrade, Laine and Ellery Stott, Logan Grace Shaw; and a host of family and friends. In lieu of flowers the family request that donations be made to the First Baptist Church Cullman building fund or your favorite charity.

Melissa Faye Barnett, 45
Melissa Faye Barnett, age 45 of Vinemont, passed away on Monday, April 14, 2025, at Cullman Health Care Center. She was born Friday, Sept. 14, 1979, to Bobby Gene Steele and Loretta Pennington Moctezuma. She was preceded in death by her father and sister, Monica Steele. Survivors include her husband, Chris Barnett; mother, Loretta Moctezuma (Raul); daughters, Raquel, Olivia and Selina Tello and Rayne Ball; son, Kyle Barnett; grandchildren, Bennet Tello and Waverly Bridges; sisters, Camila Moctezuma, Mendy Conn, Tracy Melson; brother, Jose Moctezuma and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Patricia 'Pat' Drake Smith, 80
Patricia "Pat" Drake Smith age 80 of Fairview, Alabama, passed away on Monday, April 14, 2025. She was born Jan. 19, 1945, to J.W. Jr. and Lena Drake. Former owners of Drake's Skateland and Amusement Center and The Hutch Restaurant in Fairview. Pat was a retired Boilmaker with local 263 out of Memphis, Tennessee. She has been a volunteer at the Chicken House Thrift Store for many years. She has spent the last 10 years raising and spoiling her great grandsons, Evan and Aiden Smith. She is preceded in death by her parents, her daughter, Wendy Taylor, her grandson, Joshua Drake Smith and son-in-law, Tommy Smith. She is survived by her husband Gary "Tank" Smith, brother, Mike Drake, daughter Pattie Smith (Jerry Livingston), son, Matt Martin (Tiffany), grandchildren, Jake Smith, Emma Martin, Riley Martin, Maverick Martin, Scarlett Taylor and William Taylor and 2 great grandsons who were the light of her life Evan and Aiden Smith, 5 beloved cats and a host of nieces, nephews, family & friends. A casual Graveside Service will be Saturday. April 19, 2025, at Simcoe Baptist Cemetery at 11 a.m. with Bro. Jack Holbrook officiating and a visitation and light refreshments following the service in the Fellowship Hall. Pallbearers will be Evan Smith, Aiden Smith, Jake Smith, Matt Martin, Jerry Livingston, Brandon Erwin and Terry Smith. In Lieu of flowers, please make donations to Concord Church, Simcoe Baptist Church or The Chicken House Thrift Store. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Billy Joe Pugh, 83
Billy Joe "Coach" Pugh passed away April 13, 2025, at the Hanceville Rehab and Nursing Home. He was born on April 29, 1941, in Thomasville, Alabama, to the late John Pugh and Ada Taylor. He was preceded in death by his first wife of almost 42 years, Brenda Harris, and by his siblings J. B. Pugh, Miriam Hill, Raymond Pugh, Vernon Pugh, Joyce Poole and Barbara Hicks. He is survived by his wife of almost 20 years, Susan Lyles Pugh; as well as three sons: Bryan (Deonne) of Cullman, Alabama; Bruce of Phuket Thailand; Brandon (Tracy) of Greenbrier, Tennessee; eight grandkids, Emma (Jake) Griggs; Eli Pugh, both of Cullman; Britt (Elaine) of Franklin, Kentucky; Brooks, Breanna, Brayden, Braxton, and Bridgette of Greenbrier, Tennessee; one great-grandchild, Marlowe Pugh; one brother, Will J. Pugh of Knoxville, Tennessee. Coach Pugh was a standout athlete at Thomasville High School where he was inducted in 2023 into the school's sports hall of fame. He was a career educator, teaching in various high schools across the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia, retiring from the state of Alabama as a principal, but mostly known as a coach. He coached football for decades, as well as girls' basketball, boys baseball, ran the Good Hope Little League for over 10 years, track and field, as well as coaching his own kids little league baseball teams, and helping with his grandkid's teams in his retirement. For this and more he was inducted into the Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame in 2006. He was a dedicated church member at Good Hope Baptist Church and Cullman First Baptist, while also serving as a Gideon in the latter years of his life. His love for sports was only surpassed by his love for his family, community, church, and his Savior. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to the Gideons: https://www.gideons.org/donate A celebration of life funeral service will be held Thursday April 17, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Good Hope Baptist Church, 90 Good Hope School Road, Cullman, AL 35057 officiated by Brandon Pugh, Ed Hayes and Tom Richter. Mr. Pugh will lie in state from 12 p.m. until the service time at 2 p.m. The family will receive friends for a visitation Wednesday April 16, 2025, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055. Mr. Pugh will be laid to rest at Good Hope Cemetery High School Rd. Good Hope, Alabama. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Moss Service Funeral Home
1901 Second Avenue Northwest
734-1821 Service You Can Count On

Cullman Marble & Granite Co.
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KATIE SPICER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Sherry Boatwright (in red shirt) is pictured with some of her Shag students.

Cullman's Carolina Beach Shaggers hosting event April 26

Katie Spicer
katie@cullmantoday.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Sherry and Tommy Boatright have brought the vibrant tradition of Carolina Shag dancing to the Cullman community. After hosting group lessons for members of St. John's Church, the couple is now expanding their efforts, inviting the entire community to join in and experience the joy of this iconic dance.

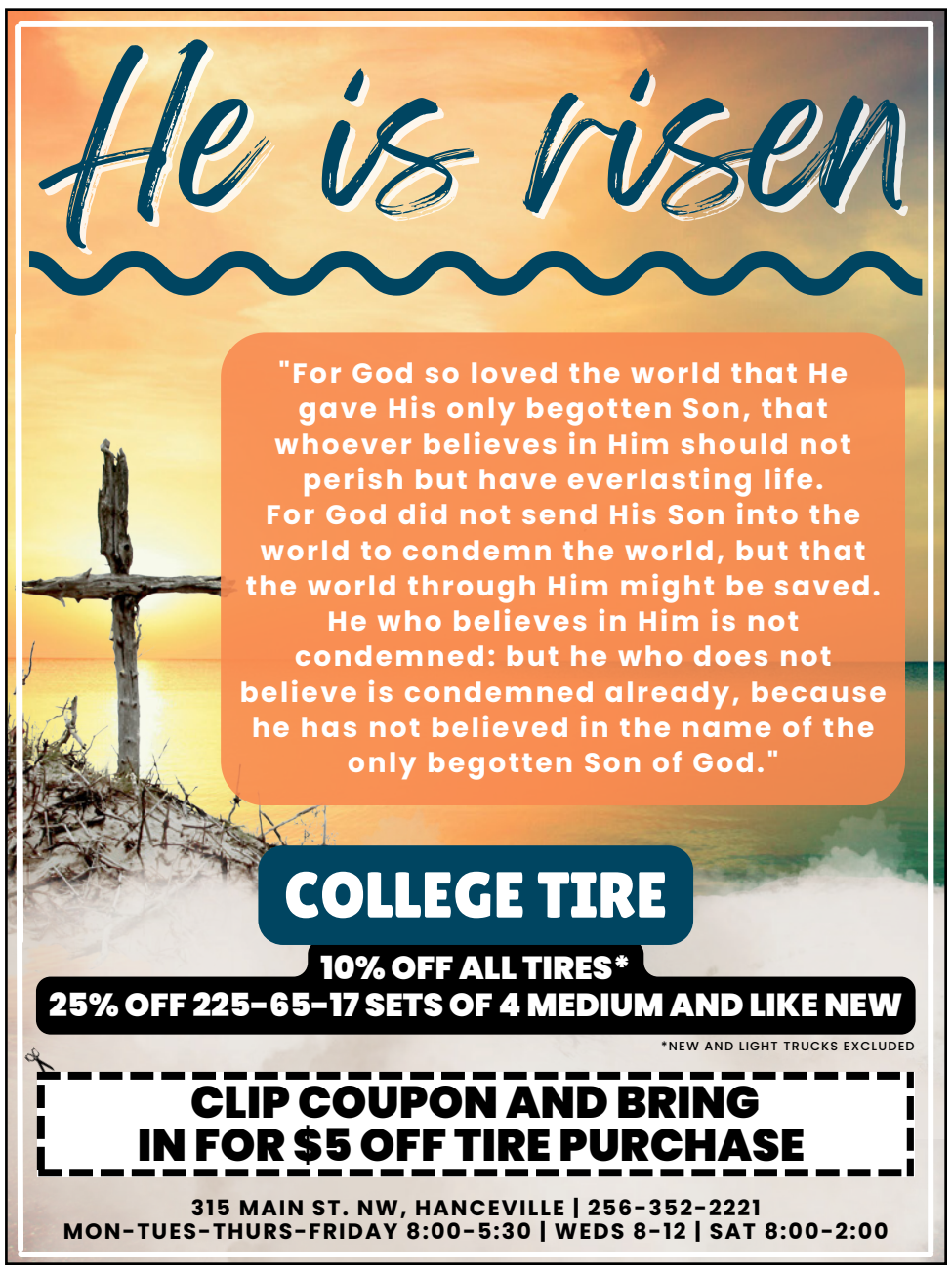
The Carolina Shag came to life in the 1940s on the beaches of the Carolinas. Performed with a partner, its basic step is an upbeat, quick and smooth pattern danced in a slot.

The Shag evolved from the Lindy Hop and the Jitterbug, incorporating elements of swing dance with a more relaxed feel. The dance is typically performed to beach music, a genre that blends R&B, soul and early rock 'n' roll.

Cullman's Carolina Beach Shaggers will host their first gathering on Saturday, April 26. Admission is $10, and snacks, beer and wine will be available for purchase. Newcomers are encouraged to attend as a lesson will be held at 6 p.m., with music and dancing from 7-10.

"We are so excited to share our love of Shag. Of course, we want Shaggers to come, but also those who may not know what Shag is but would love to find out about it," said Sherry Boatright.

The event will be held at VFW Post 2214, located at 112 Veterans Drive in Cullman. For more information, call 256-352-5080 or email duckcreek@bellsouth.net.



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