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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

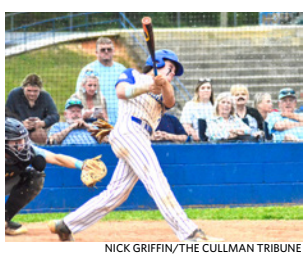
OBITUARIES
Margaret Ann Patton, Pamela Rose Gunter, Charlotte Ann Petrin, William E. Hatton, John Kelly Clark, Burnice 'Junior' Sams, Arvis Wendell Freeman
» PAGE 10

WEATHER
86 64
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
PARTLY SUNNY

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3

Games
» PAGE 11



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

No. 3 Addison powers past Skyline to advance to round 2
» PAGE 6

Wallace State recognized as Rising Star by Aspen Institute

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College was recognized as a Rising Star at the2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence award ceremony Thursday. The award recognizes the college's significant improvements in » PAGE 2

Wallace State Community College was recognized as a Rising Star by the Aspen Institute during the 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence award ceremony held Thursday, April 17, 2025, from the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. On-hand for the event were, from left, College Dean Emeritus Dr. Johnny McMoy, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Applied Technologies Dr. Beth Bownes-Johnson, President Dr. Vicki Karolewics, Mathematics Department Chair Brandon Smith, Vice President for Advancement and Innovation Suzanne Harbin and Vice President for Students and Chief Marketing Officer Kristen Holmes. »



WALLACE STATE

Commission passes resolution opposing SB322



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman County Commission is seen on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission at its meeting on Tuesday, April 15, passed a resolution opposing Alabama Senate Bill 322 (SB322) (https://tinyurl.com/sb322), which it said would allow municipalities to annex community development districts (CDDs) without public input or legislative oversight. The commission said the bill would bypass County authority, enabling cities to annex land miles beyond their boundaries, without requiring those areas to be contiguous. It said the bill threatens to divert tax revenue from counties to municipalities while leaving counties responsible for roads, services and infrastructure. The highlighted risks, it said, are fragmented governance, disrupted planning and loss of zoning control. The commission encouraged residents to contact state legislators and urge them to oppose SB322.

The bill is co-sponsored by Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman. Gudger released a video Friday, April 18 (https://tinyurl.com/ggsb322), in direct response to a video posted by Cullman County Commissioner Corey Freeman, who assailed the bill (www.facebook.com/corey.freeman.7), on Monday, April 14.

Look for a feature-length investigative piece on SB322 at www.CullmanTribune.com.

Other meeting business included approved surplus declarations, subdivision permits and appointments to the Mental Health Board.

The commission proclaimed April 18 Two Lights for Tomorrow Day. Two Lights for Tomorrow commemorates the » PAGE 4

Good Hope's Ava McSwain named 4A Girls Player of the Year



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope's Ava McSwain » PAGE 2

Cullman comes from behind to top Hartselle 3-2 in extra time » PAGE 5

St. Bernard Prep's Madilyn Kerber named Bryant-Jordan Scholar-Athlete Region Winner



ST. BERNARD

St. Bernard President Fr. Joel Martin, William Calvert and Fr. Linus Klucsarits joined Madilyn Kerber and her family to accept the prestigious award. » PAGE 4

FAITH

St. Bernard Abbey celebrates Easter Triduum
» PAGE 10

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported April 18

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported April 18, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

April 14

- menacing; Hwy. 91
- possession of drug paraphernalia; disorderly conduct; CR 490
- domestic violence; CR 747
- theft of property; Self Ave. NE Hanceville
- possession of marijuana; Hwy. 278E

April 15

- theft of property; Hwy. 278E
- theft of property; Main St. NW Hanceville
- violation of protection order; CR 1059
- criminal mischief; CR 1141
- theft of property; Hwy. 278E
- harassment; CR 1177
- theft of property; CR 698

April 16

- theft of property; CR 222

ARRESTS

April 14-16

Aaron, Jodie F.; 40
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- family offense-causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Amador Trejo, Rolando; 41
- assault-domestic-menacing-other weapon

Barbee, Benjamin H.; 47
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Burdick, Jessica E.; 42
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of drug paraphernalia

Conner, Stephanie M.; 33
- burglary-non-residence-no force
- criminal mischief

Craig, Colton B.; 20
- making false report to law enforcement authority

Doss, Bethany N.; 38
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs

Gay, Eric W.; 42
- FTA – exceeding reasonable road speed

Godwin, Brittany C.; 42
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – receiving stolen property
- FTA – DUI (other substance)

Hale, Joshua S.; 31
- sell/distribution of dangerous drugs
- auto theft

Hawkins, Brent J.; 33
- attempting to elude a police officer

Johnson, Christian S.; 27
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Juan, Anna M.; 28
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

King, Heath A.; 24
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Panter, Samuel D.; 41
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Pearson, Juwan I.; 28
- burglary-non-residence-no force
- burglary-residence-force
- burglary-residence-no force

Ponder, Trevor L.; 33
- PROBATION VIOLATION – assault-terrorism – assault-1st degree

Shook, Amber N.; 33
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Simmons, Jennifer A.; 45
- family offense-causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Sturgeon, Christopher M.; 36
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous

Walker, Laklee S.; 31
- receiving stolen property
- auto theft

Weaver, Jason J.; 33
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- disorderly conduct/disturbing peace/affray

White, Derek W.; 43
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – failure/refusal to display insurance

Whitehead, Benjamin F.; 30
- burglary-residence-no force

Young, Bimmy L.; 49
- FTA – driving while license suspended
- FTA – speeding-no workers-construction zone

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

April 16

- unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle; person; damage to '11 Honda; $200; Hwy. 31 N
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '18 Buick Encore; Marktplatz Ctr. SW

April 17

- criminal trespass-2nd degree; Coin Laundry; 4th St. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; tent; $40; Hwy. 157
- criminal trespass-2nd degree; person; Denson Ave. SW

ARRESTS

April 16-17

Banks, Timothy R.; 45
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – violation of protection order
- FTA – speeding
- FTA – driving while suspended (2 counts)
- FTA – insurance violation

Allred, Chastity B.; 36
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Melvin, Abony K.; 24
- unlawful possession/receiving of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Blakney, Justin; 27
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Turner, Jeremy N.; 43
- public intoxication

Gaddis, Jennifer A.; 40
- criminal trespass-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Cox, Shandale R.; 31
- FTA – driving while suspended

Cornelious, Becky S.; 38
- unlawful possession/receiving controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Moody, Ballard O.; 32
- unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle
- theft of property-1st degree

Miller, Brasha N.; 33
- burglary-3rd degree

Johnson, Amber N.; 32
- FTA – improper turn

Miller, David J.; 42
- burglary-3rd degree

Hyde, Kathy D.; 66
- theft of property-4th degree

Collier, Jonathon L.; 41
- FTA – driving while suspended

Graves, Kevin D.; 39
- criminal trespass-2nd degree

Holland, Brandon W.; 28
- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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ALEA releases IDs of all involved in fatal Smith Lake boat crash

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) on Thursday released the identities of all people on board both boats involved in Wednesday's fatal crash on Smith Lake near the Miller Flats area.

Three men died as a result of the 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. ALEA said a Nitro Bass Boat struck a Center Console vessel.

There was one person on board the Nitro Bass Boat:

- Angler Flint A. Davis, 22, of Leesburg, Georgia, the operator, was injured and transported to Cullman Regional in Cullman, for medical treatment.

There were five people on board the Center Console vessel:

- Gary W. Holcomb, 51, of Cullman, the operator, was injured and transported to the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Hospital for treatment.
- Luke H. Morgan, 30, of Albertville, a passenger, was injured and transported to UAB Hospital for medical treatment.
- Joey M. Broom, 58, of Altoona, a passenger, was pronounced deceased at the scene.
- John K. Clark, 44, of Cullman, a passenger, was thrown overboard and pronounced deceased later Wednesday.
- Jeffrey C. Little, 62, of Brandon, Mississippi, a passenger, was thrown overboard and pronounced deceased later Wednesday.

McSwain (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — After helping lead the Lady Raiders back to the 4A state championship game this season, Good Hope standout and UAH signee Ava McSwain was named the 4A Girls Player of the Year at the Alabama Sports Writers Association's awards banquet on Thursday. She becomes just the second player from Good Hope to win the award after her former Raider teammate Ivey Maddox was selected last year.

McSwain scored just under 19 points per game this season, earned First-Team All-State honors for the second consecutive season and was selected as the Northwest Regional Tournament MVP.

Wallace State (from Front)

student outcomes and comes with a $100,000 prize.

"We are extremely honored to be among the top three colleges in the nation recognized by the Aspen Institute with this designation as a Rising Star," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics.

"This honor only provides more incentive for us to continue to work to improve our student outcomes and make sure we offer only the best to our students and community."

Wallace State was one of 10 finalists for the 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and is the first college in the Alabama Community College System ever to be a finalist in the competition. Including this year, the college has four times been among the top 150 colleges invited by the Aspen Institute to compete for the award given every two years.

"The 10 finalists for the 2025 Aspen Prize demonstrate what's possible when community colleges are deeply committed to student success," said Josh Wyner, founder and executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program.

"Each of these institutions has taken scaled, innovative approaches to better outcomes, from improving completion rates to making sure credentials open doors to good-paying, in-demand careers — whether directly after community college or after transfer and bachelor's attainment."

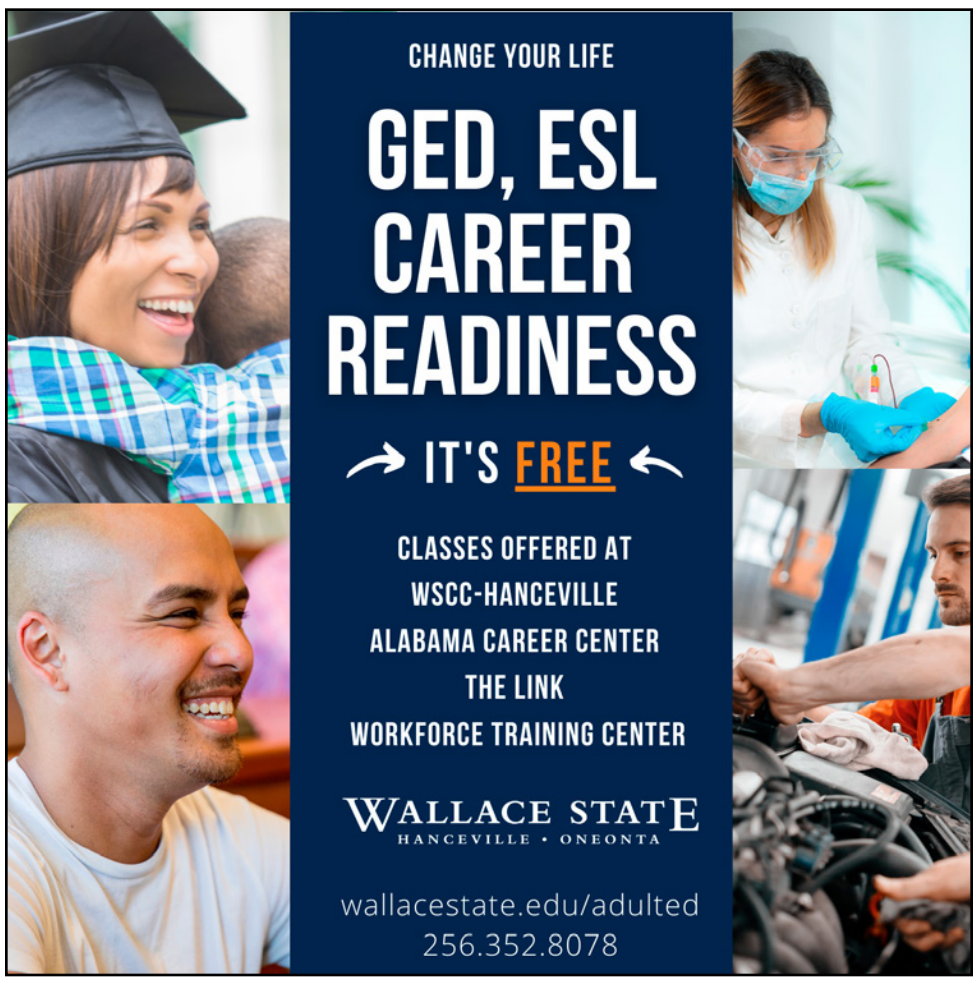
In describing the reasons for the college's selection as a Rising Star, a report released by the Aspen Institute stated, "Wallace State Community College has consistently graduated well-prepared students to fill in-demand jobs across multiple sectors — welding, health care, manufacturing and trucking — inspiring employers to invest so that talented students from the college service area, including Appalachian communities, have the equipment and work-based experiences needed to enter one of a growing number of good jobs."

Wallace State serves around 8,000 students each year between credit and non-credit courses, workforce training, adult education and dual enrollment. Its three-year graduation rate is 51%, outpacing the national average of 35%.

The college has a persistence rate of 85%, a transfer success rate of 78% and employment and licensure rates of more than 90%, all well above national averages.

Wallace State was the first community college or university in Alabama to be named a National League for Nursing Center of Excellence, is the first Alabama community college to be named an Achieving the Dream Leader College and is a Caring Campus.





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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
• 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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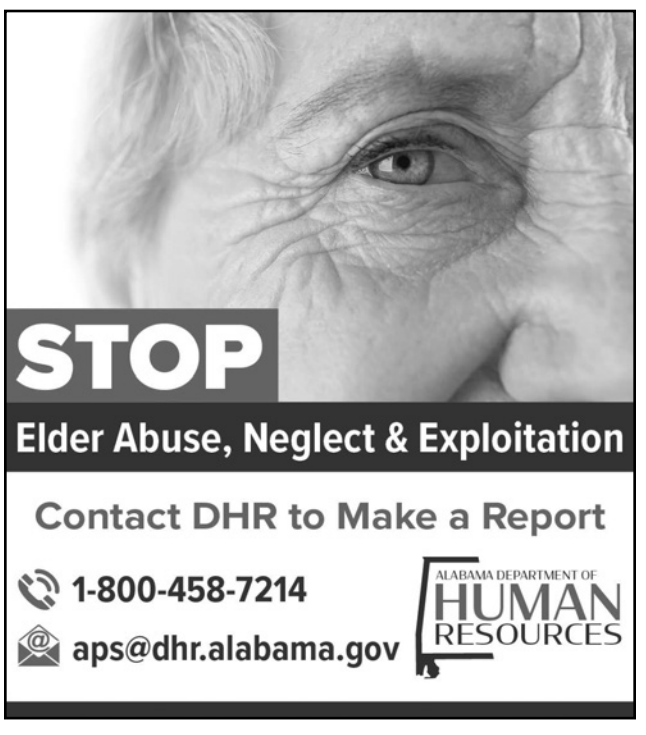
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Kerber (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — St. Bernard Preparatory School senior Madilyn Kerber has been named the Region 7, Class 1A Scholar-Athlete by the prestigious Bryant-Jordan Scholarship Program. She was recognized at the 40th Annual Bryant-Jordan Awards Banquet, held Monday, April 14, 2025, in the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel Ballroom.

Kerber earned a $3,000 scholarship as the Region 7 winner and plans to attend Auburn University this fall.

The Bryant-Jordan Program, named in honor of Alabama coaching legends Paul "Bear" Bryant and Ralph "Shug" Jordan, annually honors 104 high school student-athletes across Alabama for academic excellence and personal achievement.

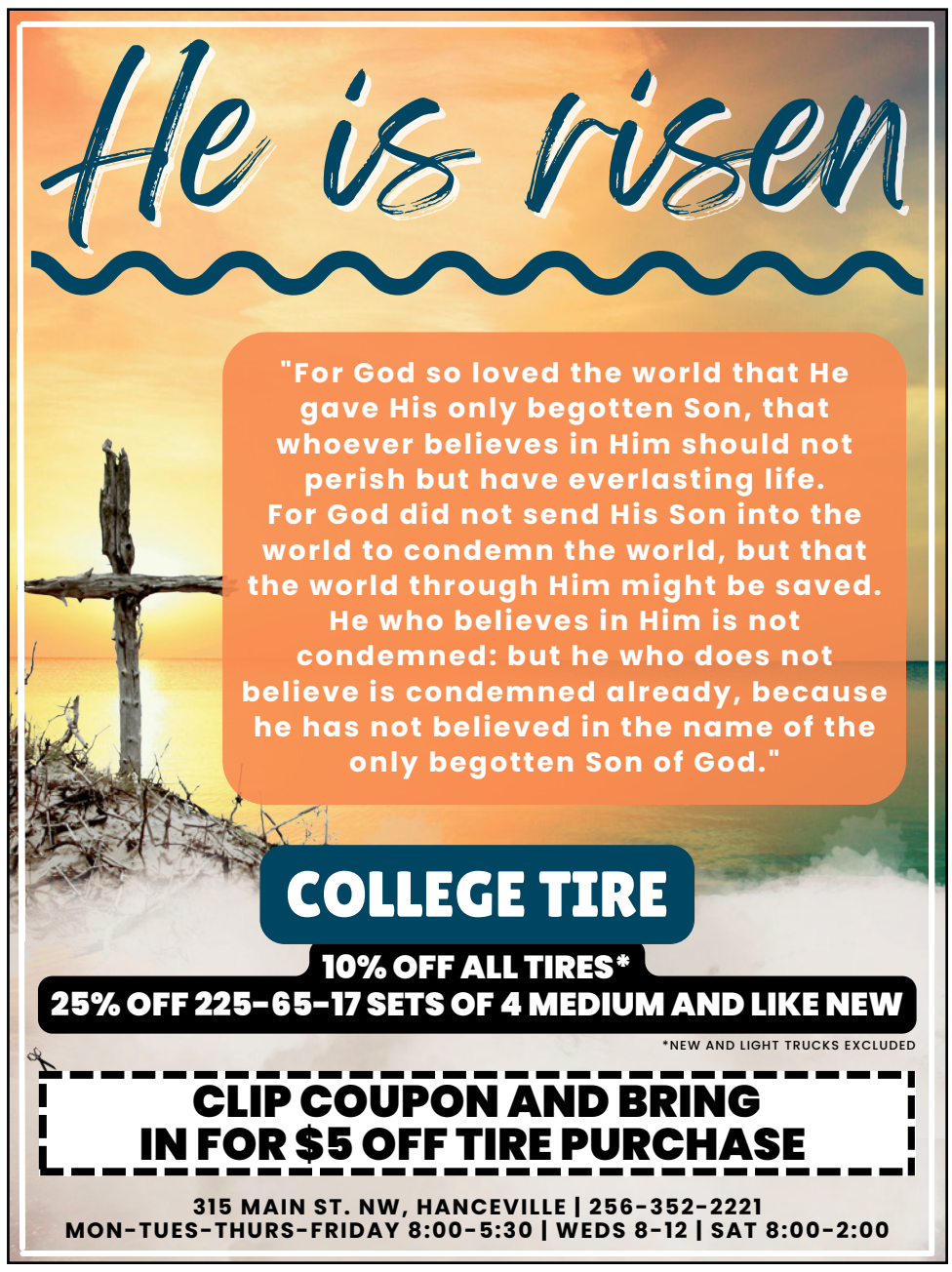
Scholarships are awarded in two categories: the Scholar-Athlete Award and the Achievement Award.

Kerber was selected for her outstanding academic performance, athletic participation, and leadership.

The program is a partnership of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame and the Alabama High School Athletic Association, awarding nearly $1 million in scholarships annually.

Kerber is the daughter of Tim and Kim Kerber of Cullman.





Commission (from Front)

250th anniversary Paul Revere's ride. On April 18, two lights were displayed in every statehouse in the nation.

Among the consent agenda items, the commission declared several items surplus, including a 2009 Dodge Charger from the sheriff's office and outdated technology from the Revenue Office. Several vehicles and equipment were removed from the Road Department's surplus list to be retained.

The commission approved the reduction of speed limits to 25 mph on County Roads 1207 and 287. Commissioners also approved a $43,750 quote for renovations at the Cullman County Sheriff's Office.

Former Vinemont Councilwoman Shirley Arnett was appointed to the Cullman Area Mental Health Authority Board for a term of six years.

Brittany Heron was nominated and approved to serve on the County's 250-Year Celebration Committee.

Additional items included approving a $11,342.95 engine purchase for CARTS, as well as permits and bonds for subdivision developments in Districts 2, 3 and 4, and accepting preliminary plats for the Bethel and Chaney Branch Farms subdivisions.

The next Cullman County Commission meeting will be Tuesday, May 20, at 6 p.m. in the commission meeting room.



Cullman (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Bearcats were back home hosting an area match with Hartselle Thursday night and regulation wasn't enough time for these two teams to settle things.

The game was scoreless at halftime but after Hartselle pulled ahead 2-0 early in the second half, the Bearcats bounced back when Alexia Harris scored off an assist from Leslie Sanchez at the 32:48 mark to trim the lead to 2-1. Then Lily Lambert scored via an Eva Allen Assist at the 31:08 mark to tie the game at 2 and force extra time.

At the 4:23 mark of the overtime period, Alexia Harris hit a beautiful shot from 35 yards out, just over the Goalkeeper's reach to seal a dramatic, 3-2 win for the Bearcats.

Cullman will travel to Southside for round one of the state playoffs next Thursday.



ROCHELLE HOPPER

The Cullman Lady Bearcats celebrate after defeating Hartselle 3-2 in extra time Thursday night.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
APRIL 19, 2025

PREP BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

No. 3 Addison powers past Skyline to advance to round 2

Todd Walker
Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. — After securing the area title during the regular season, the third-ranked Addison Bulldogs began their postseason run at home with a matchup against Skyline. The Bulldogs dominated both games from start to finish, hammering the Vikings 22-0 in game one and wrapping up the series with an 18-0 in game two. In both wins, Addison racked up a combined 32 hits and allowed just three combined hits. The Bulldogs will face either Pickens Academy or Spring Garden in round two.

Addison 22 - Skyline 0 (Game One)

It didn't take Addison long to get started. After getting the Vikings three up and three down in the top of the first, Addison exploded for thirteen runs in the bottom of the first inning as Addison sent 17 men to the plate. Addison's had the first two Bulldog batters hit by pitches. An error allowed a run to score and then Lane Stewart stroked a single to score two more runs to give Addison the 3-0 lead.

Kiah Lake, Jaxson Williams and Kaden Dyson followed with singles to push the score to 6-0. A couple more errors had it 8-0 and then Stone Talley roped a double to center knocking in two more runs. Stewart and Lake followed with rbi singles and then Williams walked. Dyson singled, driving in Addison's 12th and 13th runs of the inning.

The second inning had Skyline getting what turned out to be their only hit of the night as little Micah Shelton hit a sand wedge shot to right field for a clean single. Shelton was stranded at first as Kiah Lake struck out the next batter.

Addison plated three more runs in the second inning on a Wilkins double, an RBI single by Tucker Thompson and then a two-run homerun by Talley.

Addison's third inning had a Carter Pratt single, Dathan Cleghorn got hit by a pitch and then a Wilkins walk loaded the bases with one out. Thompson grounded out to first scoring Pratt while Cleghorn and Wilkins moved up a base. Cleghorn scored on a wild pitch and then Talley singled, scoring Wilkins. Addison led 19-0 after 3 innings.

Addison had a Brye Dollar single, and Kasen Hill walked to lead off the Bulldog fourth. Cole Thompson reached on an error, scoring Dollar. Hill scored on a wild pitch. Thompson scored on a Tanner Gaither ground out to give Addison the 22-0 lead.

Carter Pratt entered on the mound and got the final three outs to wrap up Addison's 22-0 five inning win.

Addison had Kiah Lake go four innings for the win, allowing only the one hit. Lake struck out 4 and walked none. Carter Pratt pitched the final inning, allowing nothing.

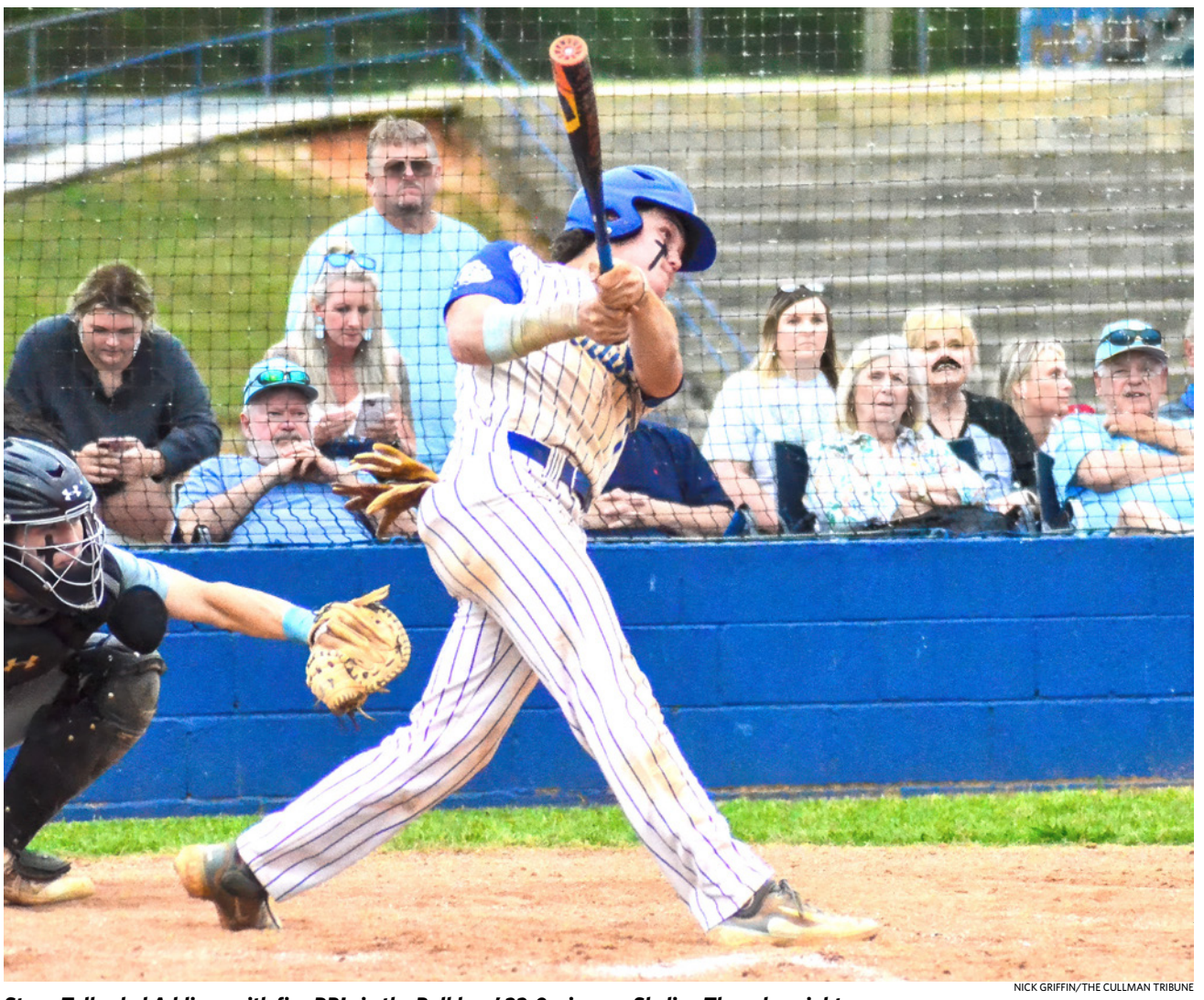
Addison's Wilkins went 1-2 with 4 runs scored, a double and a stolen base. Thompson went 1-3 with 2 runs scored, 2 RBIs and a stolen base. Talley went 3-4 with 5 RBIs, a double and a homerun, 3 runs scored. Stewart went 2-3 with 3 RBIs and 2 runs scored. Lake went 2-2 with an RBI.

Williams went 1-2 with an RBI. Dyson went 2-3 with 3 RBIs, a run scored and a stolen base. C. Pratt went 1-3 with a run scored. Cleghorn scored 2 runs. Hill scored 3 runs and snagged a stolen base. Gaither had a run scored and a stolen base.

Addison 18 - Skyline 0 (Game Two)

After the first inning there was no score, which was a surprise. The first inning of game two was the only inning that Addison didn't score multiple runs in the two games.

Addison struck quickly in the top of the second. Lake singled and then Dyson had a one out walk. Carter Pratt then singled in Lake. Dyson scored on a fielding error by the left fielder on the play. Owen Pratt then brought his brother, Carter, home on a ground out to short. The Vikings would get their only hit of the second game on another sand wedge shot to right field by Jaxson Guthrie. Tucker Thompson would strike out the final two Vikings to end the inning leaving the Vikings scoreless. After two innings, the Bulldogs led 3-0.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Stone Talley led Addison with five RBIs in the Bulldogs' 22-0 win over Skyline Thursday night.

Addison picked up six runs in the third inning, as Thompson doubled, Talley was hit by a pitch. After Thompson stole third base and Talley advanced to second, Stewart singled back up the middle scoring Thompson and Talley. Lake reached on an error and then Williams singled to scoring Stewart. Dyson singled next, bringing in another run. C. Pratt then singled to put runners on first and third with one out. Wilkins then doubled, bringing home the sixth run of the inning and giving Addison the 9-0 lead.

Thompson got the Vikings three up and three down in the Skyline fourth and this set up Addison for a big fourth inning of their own. The Bulldogs plated six more runs with six of the first seven batters getting hits. Addison had two doubles and a triple in those six hits and the Bulldogs scored all six runs to go up 15-0 after four.

In the top of the fifth inning, Addison scored three more runs with a Cleghorn single and a Brye Dollar walk. A double steal had Bulldogs on second and third with no one out. A wild pitch scored Cleghorn. Cole Thompson walked and then Cole Rodgers ripped a double to center field, bringing in two more runs. Addison led 18-0 after four.

Stone Talley came in and struck out the three Vikings he faced and that was the ballgame.

Thompson pitched 4 innings, giving up one hit with six strikeouts. Talley tossed an inning with 3 strike outs.

Thompson went 2-4 with a double, run scored an RBI and a stolen base. Talley went 2-3 with a triple and two runs scored with a stolen base. Stewart went 1-3 with 3 RBIs. Lake went 2-3 with a stolen base. Williams went 2-3. Dyson went 2-3 with 2 RBIs and 2 runs scored with a stolen base. Carter Pratt went 3-3 with 2 stolen bases and 3 runs scored.

Owen Pratt went 1-3 with a double, 2 RBIs, a run scored and a stolen base. Cleghorn went 1-1 with a run scored and 2 stolen bases.

Dollar had a walk with a stolen base and run scored. Cole Thompson had a walk, stolen base and run scored. Rodgers had a double with 2 RBIs. Gaither had 2 runs scored.

Addison Head Coach Lee Williams

"We are playing well as a team right now. I challenged the guys, and they have responded well. We are getting excellent pitching from all our pitchers and the entire team is hitting the ball well. Our hitters are really squaring up on the ball and hitting extremely well with runners in scoring position. We just aren't leaving guys on base. If we keep playing at the level we are now, we are going to be a tough out."

Addison has advanced to the second round of the state playoffs and will host the second round game if Spring Garden wins but will travel to Pickens Academy if the Pirates pull the upset.

PREP BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

No. 7 Vinemont splits Thursday games with Randolph County

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The Vinemont Eagles secure this year's 3A, Area 12 Championship during the regular season and as a result, they were back home at Mike Cupp Field Thursday night to host Randolph County in the opening round of the state playoffs. The Tigers jumped out to an early lead in game one and fended off a late push from the Eagles to secure a 7-4 win and a 1-0 lead in the series. Vinemont and Randolph County traded leads throughout game two but the Eagles were able to outlast the Tigers 15-12 and keep their postseason hopes alive. Vinemont will be back on the field on Friday with a spot in round two on the line.

Editor's note: Game three was not completed before press time Friday night. Check cullmantribune.com or The Cullman Tribune's Facebook page to see the results of game three.

Randolph County 7 – Vinemont 4 (Game One)

After a scoreless first inning, Randolph County strung together five hits in the top of the second to take an early, 6-0 lead over Vinemont. The Eagles were able to cut into the lead in the bottom of the third. Josh Rhodes led off the inning with a double to left field and a few pitches later, Kayden Henderson drove an RBI single down the left field line to trim the lead to 6-1. Rylan McRae and Rush Sandlin drew walks to load the bases later in the inning and Henderson scored on an error to make it a 6-2 game going into the fourth.

Both defenses tightened up after that. Vinemont was able to load the bases in the bottom of the fourth, but a strikeout ended the inning and kept the lead at 6-2. The Tigers tacked on another run in the top of the seventh to stretch their lead to 7-2 going into the bottom half of the inning.

Hayden Robinson led things off with a single and with two outs on the board later in the inning, Tucker Mauter shot an RBI double into center field to bring the lead down to 7-3. After Chad Reynolds drew a walk, Jake Hale knocked an RBI single back up the middle to plate Mauter and make it a 3-run game, but Vinemont was unable to chip away any more than that and Randolph County held on to take game one, 7-4.

Hale (one hit), Henderson (one hit) and Mauter (one hit) each recorded an RBI in the loss.

Vinemont 15 – Randolph County 12 (Game Two)

Both teams were scoreless in the opening frame, but the Eagles struck first in the top of the second. Hayden Robinson reached first on an error and a sacrifice bunt from Rylan McRae allowed him to move over to third base. Rush Sandlin was hit by a pitch to put runners on the corners and Tucker Mauter laid down another sac bunt to score Robinson and put Vinemont in front 1-0.

Randolph County responded in the bottom half of the inning, pushing a run across to tie the game at 1 going into the third. The Eagles regained the lead in the top of the third. Josh Rhodes led off with a triple into left field and Owen McKinney laid another bunt down the first base line to bring in Rhodes and give Vinemont a 2-1 lead. The Tigers hit back hard in the bottom of the third, plating four runs to take a 5-2 lead into the fourth inning but the Eagles weren't done yet.

Mauter drew a walk to lead off the top of the top of the fourth and that's when the bats got hot.

After back to back singles from Chad Reynolds and Jake Hale loaded the bases, Rhodes lined a an RBI single to left field to cut the lead to 5-3.

McKinney put Vinemont back in front on the next pitch when he launched a bases-clearing double into center field and made it a 6-5 game. Henderson drew a walk to put runners on the corners and Robinson sent a 2-run double to right field to give Vinemont an 8-5 lead.

After McRae drew another walk and Robinson stole third, Sandlin laid down a bunt to bring in another run and make it 9-5. The Eagles continued to manufacture runs with bunts as Mauter laid another one down and scored McRae to put Vinemont ahead 10-5 going into the bottom half of the fourth.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Vinemont Eagles split their Thursday doubleheader with Randolph County.

The Tigers trimmed the lead down to 10-8 in the bottom of the fourth, but the Eagles added to their lead in the top of the fifth.

A bunt single from Robinson allowed Rhodes to score and gave Vinemont an 11-8 lead. One pitch later, McRae punched a 2-run single into center field to make it a 13-8 game and a sacrifice bunt from Sandlin gave the Eagles a 14-8 lead going into the sixth inning.

With the bases loaded in the top of the sixth, Sandlin was hit by a pitch, bringing in another run to put Vinemont in front 15-8.

Randolph County cut the lead to 15-9 in the bottom of the sixth and was able to make it a 3-run game in the seventh, but the Eagles collected the final three outs they needed to secure a 15-12 win and force a game three.

McKinney (one hit) led the Eagles with four RBIs in the win. Robinson (two hits) and Sandlin each added three RBIs and McRae (one hit) and Mauter each posted a pair of RBIs.

‘It’s a great opportunity’: Business After Hours

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce hosted its quarterly Business After Hours event at Jubilee Coffee and Wine Bar on Monday, April 14, an opportunity for local professionals to connect in a relaxing atmosphere.

Chamber President Joey Orr described the event as an excellent networking opportunity for Chamber members to form connections outside of a traditional office setting, build partnerships and promote their services.

“It’s a great opportunity for our members to tell each other about their businesses and what they’re able to offer,” Orr said. “We can all advocate for each other and promote each other around the community.”

The Chamber hosts four Business After Hours events a year, scheduled to take place after work hours so as many people as possible can attend. Compared to more formal events hosted by the Chamber, the After Hours events offer a casual setting for people to interact freely. The Chamber tries to incorporate an interactive element into every After Hours event, like networking bingo or other games designed to get people interacting and out of their comfort zones. At the Jubilee event, guests enjoyed cocktail demonstrations.

In July, the Chamber plans to host a family friendly Business After Hours at WildWater. “Everybody’s busy. So being able to combine family time and networking has been a great success,” Orr said.

Beyond community building, Business After Hours also serves as a spotlight for local businesses. “One thing I love is that we host these events at member businesses,” Orr said. “Tonight, several people told me it was their first time visiting Jubilee. That’s a win — not just for the Chamber, but for the business, too.”

The next Business After Hours is scheduled for July at WildWater, with the exact date and time to be announced.



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

April’s Business After Hours event was held at Jubilee Coffee and Wine Bar.

'No matter what I go through in life, God will take care of me'

Fairview's Lona Latham reflects on Aggie years

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. — Fairview senior cheerleader Lona Latham cheered for a combined 10 years between high school and her time at the Cullman Gymnastics and Cheer Academy (CGCA) and in this interview she shared some of her favorite memories cheering alongside her friends.

"My favorite part of cheerleading is the thrill of competing against other great squads. I also enjoyed getting to be a part of the amazing atmosphere at the pep rallies before the games," Latham said. "Over my years of cheerleading, I've had several encouraging teammates that made a positive impact on my cheerleading career, one of those being my most recent cheer captain, Cassie Davis. She had a positive attitude, always encouraged me, and made me feel welcome."

Lona talked about her favorite cheer competition she participated in and she even got to reunite with some of her fellow cheerleaders from CGCA.

"The county competition was my favorite, because I got to see and compete against several amazing girls that I cheered with at CGCA on the Xtreme All-Stars squad. It was bittersweet, because I love all of my girls, even though we no longer cheer together. They're great athletes and those years being a part of the Xtreme All-Stars squad with them were some of my most favorite years in the sport. They, along with my coach, helped shape who I am as a cheerleader." Latham said.

She learned so much from all her coaches during her cheer career and she will deeply miss cheering on the sidelines next season.

"Coaches are a huge asset for a cheerleader. They not only teach the skills needed for improving their abilities, but they also teach skills such as work ethic, positive morals, and teamwork. I was fortunate to have the coaches that I had. Besides the physical part of cheer, they taught me to have a higher confidence in myself, because I can do anything I put my mind to," she said. "I will miss the overall sport in general. I've cheered my own life, and I loved pushing myself to be the best version of myself that I could be."

Lona's faith has always been a big part of her life, and she believes it helped her excel on the sidelines as well.

"God played a significant role in my cheer career. I believe my faith helped me push through the tough moments and be thankful for the opportunities. Through God, I find my strength and purpose, and I know as long as I keep Him first in my life, He will see me through. Matthew 19:26 says, 'But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God, all things are possible,'" she said. “God plays a very important role in my everyday life. Without Him, I am nothing and have nothing. He guides me daily through His word," she said. "Me and my fellow cheerleaders always prayed before competitions and for each other. One thing that really sticks out to me is when we have a tragedy with a member of the community, the whole high school came together on the front lawn to pray for the family."

Lona had a great time participating in Key Club for her final two years of high school and she gave some advice to students who will be starting high school in August.

"My favorite Key Club memories were when we helped at the special needs rodeo. I loved this, because I loved seeing all of the kids enjoy the rodeo and making amazing memories with my fellow Key Club members," she said. "My advice to upcoming high schoolers is to simply be yourself, be outgoing, and enjoy it. Make the most of your high school experience, because it will be over before you know it."

She shared her favorite Bible verse and loved being a role model for all the younger girls that were watching her cheer.

"Philippians 4:13 says, 'I can do all things through Christ, which strengthens me.' This verse means a lot to me, because it reminds me that no matter what I go through in life, God will take care of me and get me through it as long as I lean on Him and His word," she said. "I would like to be remembered as someone that was helpful to others. It was very important for me to set a good example for the young girls that were watching me cheer."

Fairview will always hold a special place in Lona's heart, and she will remember and miss so many things about being an Aggie.

"At Fairview, it feels like one big family. Everyone knew each other," she said. "The most memorable thing to me is getting to create amazing bonds with my other peers, and I think that seeing my friends on a daily basis will be what I will miss about going to Fairview. Stephanie Acklin has been one of my very best friends since second grade. We have made a lot of great memories growing up at Fairview together. I was blessed to have been able to be taught by my grandmother, Denise Latham. She has always been a big part of my life, so being taught by her was a wonderful experience."



LONA LATHAM

Fairview’s Lona Latham

WSCC: Celebrating Chibueze Meremetoh's journey to a nursing degree

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Chibueze “Chi” Meremetoh is a proud alumnus of Wallace State Community College, where he earned his associate degree in nursing while simultaneously earning his bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) through Wallace State’s joint enrollment option.

His journey to Wallace State began with a search for a nursing program that would allow him to earn his Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) in less than two years. He was considering another college before a campus visit to Wallace State changed his path.

Meremetoh’s first time in Alabama was for a Wallace State Nursing orientation session.

After catching a flight from Queens, New York, to Chattanooga, he embarked on a series of bus rides that took him through Atlanta and Birmingham before finishing his trip with an Uber ride to the campus of Wallace State. Nursing staff even helped him get back to Birmingham after the session was over.

Despite logistical hurdles that left him arriving four hours later than planned, he was warmly greeted by the faculty, and he quickly immersed himself in the program.

“Ultimately, the kindness and excellence that I experienced during my Wallace visit sealed the deal,” Meremetoh said. “The organization, resources and sheer support was unmatched.”

Meremetoh entered the program in 2022, receiving a scholarship from the Wallace State Future Foundation to assist him with the financial costs.

Despite a busy nursing school schedule, he found time to attend campus devotions held at the Lady Lions dorm on Mondays.

“These Bible studies encouraged me and comforted me with the fact that there we various youth of the same faith looking to grow in the Lord,” Meremetoh said.

He completed his education in 2024, earning both an associate degree from WSCC and a bachelor’s degree from UAB. He said the connections and fellowships he built with his classmates and faculty continue to this today, and he holds a special place in his heart for Nursing Department Chair Deborah “Pepper” Hoover.

“From the time I saw her on the joint enrollment Zoom information session to the moment she saw me in person after a crazy commute from NYC at orientation till now, she has been a great encourager and help in any way she can,” Meremetoh said. “She has been an example of a servant leader.”

Meremetoh said his time at Wallace State taught him the value of diligent studying, research, and discipline. He credits the program for shaping him into the nurse he is today.

“I was blessed to be around great peers, diligent instructors and supportive faculty whose greatest goal is to help others be their best,” he said.

He said the most beneficial aspect of attending Wallace State was the community and support he received.

“There were times where I experienced financial hardship but there were always people and resources willing to support me and help me finish what I started,” Meremetoh said.

Today, Meremetoh works at UAB Hospital and is paying this support forward as he continues to apply the lessons and values he learned at Wallace State.



WALLACE STATE

Chibueze Meremetoh stands as he was recognized during the 2024 Commencement for Health Science students at Wallace State Community College.

LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARK HERREN OLIVER, * **CASE NO.: PC 2025-112**
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that *Petition for Summary of Distribution* received the 25th day of March, 2025, made court record the 26th day of March, 2025, by Thomas Bryan Oliver, Petitioner, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the State of Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

Thomas Bryan Oliver
Petitioner

Gaynor L. St. John
Attorney for the Estate of Mark Herren Oliver
St John & St John, LLC
108 3rd Street SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

To: PUBLISHER OF ***The Cullman Tribune***

Please publish the above notice **ONE TIME** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 16th day of April, 2025.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

WEDA B. NAILS, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2024-397

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF WEDA B. NAILS, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Julia D. Stricklin on the 2nd day of April, 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.

Julia D. Stricklin, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.com

Case# PC2024-447
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Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
BRENDA REED, * **CASE NO.: PC 2024-447**
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that *Petition for Summary of Distribution* made court record the 17th day of December, 2024, by Marla Cobbs, Petitioner, and Amended Petition for Summary Distribution received the 21st day of January, 2025, made court record the 22nd day of January, 2025, by Clint L. Maze, Attorney for the Petitioner, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the State of Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

Marla Cobbs
Petitioner

Clint L. Maze
Attorney for Petitioner
Wilmer & Lee, P.A.
725 North Brindlee Mountain Parkway
Arab, Alabama 35016
Cullman, Alabama 35055

To: PUBLISHER OF ***The Cullman Tribune***

Please publish the above notice **ONE TIME** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 15th day of April, 2025.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
TERESA ANN COBBS, * CASE NO. PC 2025 - 133
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Ashley Dawn Cobbs as Personal Representative of the Estate of Teresa Ann Cobbs, deceased, on the 15th day of April, 2025, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Ashley Dawn Cobbs
Personal Representative

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

Attorney for Personal Representative

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
NOAH LOUIS BOWLING, CASE NO.: PC 2024-314
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to CAITLIN ELIZABETH BOWLING as Personal Representative of the Estate of NOAH LOUIS BOWLING deceased, on the 9th day of April, 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.

Caitlin Elizabeth Bowling
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for the Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JAMES KEITH RHODES, **Case Number: PC2025-043**
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of James Keith Rhodes, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 16th day of April, 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.

Mary Rebecca Rhodes Aaron
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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
ELEANOR RUTH FREY, CASE NO.: PC2025-134
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Beverly Paschal Poston as the Administratrix of the Estate of Eleanor Ruth Frey, deceased, on the 16th 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.

Beverly Paschal Poston
Administratrix

Beverly Paschal Poston (PAS001)
Attorney
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256) 739-3970

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 CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CHARLES AND CATHY SOVIA, §
Plaintiffs, §
§
vs. §
§ **CIVIL ACTION NUMBER:**
MICHAEL BRIAN LARUE, § **CV-2024-900332**
Defendant. §

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION TO:

Michael Brian Larue
1350 Tabernacle Road
Cleveland, Alabama 35049

Michael Brian Larue
260 Tankersley Road
Blountsville, Alabama

You are hereby notified that a lawsuit has been filed against you by the Plaintiff in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama for personal injury and damages arising out of a motor vehicle collision which occurred on March 7, 2023, in the City of Cullman, County of Cullman, Alabama, and that by reason of an Order for service by publication hereinbefore entered by the Court, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the Clerk of the Court, and to serve upon the Plaintiff's attorney, Jonathan Metz, 216 Summit Blvd, Suite 300, Birmingham, AL 35243, an answer to the Complaint within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication or by the 24th day of May, 2025.

Done this 27th day of March, 2025

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
ROBERT PAUL LINDSEY, * **CASE NO.: PC2024-407**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to KALENNA QUICK, as Administrator, of the ESTATE OF ROBERT PAUL LINDSEY, deceased, on the 12th day of February 2025, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

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

Kalenna Quick
Administrator

Brandon C. Neal
Attorney for Administrator
217 – Second Avenue, East
Oneonta, Alabama 35121

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 12th day of February, 2025.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JERRY WAYNE HARDEN, * **CASE NO.: PC 2024-446**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Linda Lee, Personal Representative of the Estate of Jerry Wayne Harden, deceased, on the 3rd 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.

Linda Lee
Personal Representative

Melvin Hasting
PO Box 517
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0517

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

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
PHYLLIS HUDDLESTON, * **CASE NO.: PC2025-106**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to WILLIAM SCOTT JOHNSEY, as Administrator of the Estate of PHYLLIS HUDDLESTON, deceased, on the 9th 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.

WILLIAM SCOTT JOHNSEY
Administrator

G. Alan Smith
Attorney for Administrator
PO Box 320589
Birmingham, AL 35232

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

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

DONE this 9th day of April, 2025.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
GLADYS DYE SPEAKMAN, * **CASE NO.: PC 2025-078**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to ROGER C. BLACK aka RODGER C. BLACK, Executor of the Estate of GLADYS DYE SPEAKMAN, deceased, on the 16th 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.

Roger C. Black aka Rodger C. Black
Executor of the Estate

Shay Persall
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 7th Street, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

STATE OF ALABAMA	*	**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF**
	*	
CULLMAN COUNTY	*	**CASE NO.:** PC 2025-092

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF BRUCE ROLAND SURRETT, SR., DECEASED,

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to ELAINE SURRETT, as Administratrix of the Estate of BRUCE ROLAND SURRETT, SR., Deceased, on the 2nd day of April, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown.

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.

ELAINE SURRETT
Administratrix of the
Estate of
Bruce Roland Surrett, Sr., Deceased

PERRY D. KNIGHT
Attorney for the Estate of
Bruce Roland Surrett, Sr., Deceased
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

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

Vendor applications open for 2025 Hanceville Grilled Cheese Festival

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The 2025 Hanceville Grilled Cheese Festival is preparing for another year of grilled cheese thrills and competition and is now accepting vendor applications for the fifth annual event. A full preview of the festival will follow at a later date.

Vendors interested in participating must submit an application and payment before the May 19 deadline. Returning vendors are encouraged to submit early to help ensure their previous space assignments are honored. After the deadline, spaces will be assigned at the discretion of the vendor director.

"We always have a variety of vendors offering pretty much anything you would like to see at a street festival," said organizer Nolan Bradford.

"Vendors can expect the largest crowds of the year for this particular event."

The vendor fee is $30 for a 10x10 single space or $60 for a 10x20 double space, covering one day of the event. Spaces are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis and vendors must provide their own tents, tables and displays. Setup will take place on May 24 between 5:30-7:30 a.m. before the opening of the festival at 9.

Limited power hookups are available upon request, but vendors are responsible for arranging their power or bringing a generator if needed. Full rules and regulations are available on the vendor application form.

Additionally, those interested in becoming festival sponsors may submit a registration form by the May 19 deadline.

To obtain or submit a vendor application, or more information or any questions related to the festival, contact Nolan Bradford at 205-249-5588 or email friendsofthefestivalal@gmail.com.

Wallace State earns 2025-2026 Military Friendly® School designation

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College on Tuesday announced that it has earned the 2025-2026 Military Friendly® School designation.

Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. More than 1,800 schools participated in the 2025-2026 survey with 830 earning special awards for going above the standard.

The 2025-2026 Military Friendly® Schools list will be published in the May and October issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

Methodology, criteria and weightings were determined by Viqtory with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution's survey scores with the assessment of the institution's ability to meet thresholds for Student Retention, Graduation, Job Placement, Loan Repayment, Persistence (Degree Advancement or Transfer) and Loan Default rates for all students and, specifically, for student veterans.

"We are honored to receive the Military Friendly® School designation once again. This recognition reflects our ongoing commitment to providing exceptional support and resources for our student veterans and their families," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics.

"Military Friendly® is committed to transparency and providing consistent data-driven standards in our designation process. Our standards provide a benchmark that promotes positive outcomes and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the military community. This creates a competitive atmosphere that encourages Institutions to evolve and invest in their programs consistently. Schools who achieve awards designation show true commitment in their efforts, exceeding the standard," said Kayla Lopez, vice president, Military Friendly®.

For more information about Wallace State's student veteran programs, visit www.wallacestate.edu or www.wallacestate.edu/about-wscc/military.

Deviled and dyed: Extension's guide to Easter eggs

Justin Miller
Contributor

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — With Easter on the horizon, yards will soon be filled with brightly colored eggs, just waiting to be discovered. For many, dyeing eggs is a yearly tradition. For others, the tradition is centered around the trays upon trays of deviled eggs. Either way, it is safe to say eggs are a mainstay for Easter celebrations. When it comes to dyeing, storing and even eating these eggs, there are a few things to keep in mind.

While the national average price for a dozen eggs has decreased greatly in recent weeks, the cost is still more than three dollars per dozen. This may leave some wondering if they can use the same eggs for multiple purposes, such as eating dyed eggs after being used for an Easter egg hunt. Alice Moore, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System food safety and quality agent, said this is not recommended.

"If the plan is to eat the dyed eggs, it is not a good idea to use them for hiding," Moore said. "Instead, hide plastic eggs and save the dyed eggs in the refrigerator to eat. Cooked eggs that are still in the shells are safe to eat for up to seven days if refrigerated." At room temperature, cooked eggs should not be left out for more than two hours. However, when temperatures reach 85 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, that timeline decreases to between 30 minutes and one hour. Moore said this makes temperature control critical to safety.

"After eggs are refrigerated, it is important that they stay that way," Moore said. "A cold egg left out at room temperature can sweat, facilitating the growth of bacteria. Inadequate refrigeration, improper handling and insufficient cooking are all factors that have contributed to disease outbreaks."

Dyeing eggs to eat

Those who plan to eat their dyed Easter eggs may also want to consider alternative sources of dye. Moore said there are several foods that people can use to extract natural colors for dyeing eggs. These include beets (pink), onion skins (orange), turmeric (yellow), purple cabbage (light blue) and blueberries (dark blue).

To create these dyes, bring 1 quart of water and 2 tablespoons of white vinegar to a boil. Then, add the following measurements of the chosen dye ingredient: 4 cups for beets (chopped), onion skins or blueberries; 3 cups for purple cabbage; or 3 tablespoons for turmeric. Let the mixture simmer for 30 minutes. Remove it from the heat and let the mixture cool. Once cooled, strain the liquid before adding hard-boiled eggs.

"Let the eggs soak for at least 30 minutes," Moore said. "You can get deeper and more vibrant colors the longer you let them soak in the liquid, maybe even overnight. However, keep in mind that the eggs need to be back in the refrigerator within two hours if you plan to eat them."

Using food coloring and whipped topping is another method for dyeing eggs. Simply add the whipped topping to a baking dish or a muffin tin and then add a few drops of food coloring. Stir the food coloring into the whipped topping and then roll and completely cover hard-boiled eggs in the mixture. "Let the eggs sit in the mixture for 10 to 30 minutes in the refrigerator," Moore said. "Remove the eggs, rinse off the mixture and let the eggs dry. This method can get a little messy, so you may consider wearing gloves to avoid staining your hands."

Colorful deviled eggs

Instead of choosing between dyeing or deviling eggs, why not combine the two and make dyed deviled eggs? This is an easy way to incorporate signature Easter colors into any spread. Moore shares the following steps for making colorful deviled eggs.

1. Fill 8-ounce glass jars 2/3 of the way with cold water.
2. Add 1 tsp. vinegar and three drops of the desired food coloring to each jar.
3. Remove shells from hard-boiled eggs and slice each egg in half.
4. Remove yolks into a bowl and set aside.
5. Place egg whites into the jars and refrigerate.
6. Let the egg whites sit in the mixture until the desired color is reached. Then, remove to paper towels and let dry.
7. Meanwhile, mash egg yolks with a fork and mix in 1/2 cup mayonnaise and salt and pepper to taste.
8. Once dried, spoon the yolk mixture into the colored egg whites and store in the refrigerator until ready to serve.

More information

For more information on food safety, visit the Alabama Extension website at aces.edu/go/foodsafety.

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Surplus property of Wallace State Community College (Hanceville Campus) will be offered for sale on the website www.govdeals.com Various sales will occur on this website, please check the www.govdeals.com website weekly to see any current sales. This is a government auction website and you MUST be registered on the website to bid on any items. You may view the surplus property to be sold without registration. The govdeals.com website will contain detailed information including descriptions and photos. Items may be inspected by APPOINTMENT ONLY: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Contact Wesley Sams at inventory@wallacestate.edu to schedule any appointments. All items listed are to be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS". Wallace State Community College reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDING - Case No: PR-2025-000392

TO: any unknown father of BBB A/K/A BWB, a minor; whose whereabouts are unknown Please take notice that a Petition to adopt BBB A/K/A BWB a male born to Daina Eve Elizabeth Bauernfeind on March 17, 2025 in Jasper, Cullman County, Alabama has been filed in the Probate Court of Shelby County, alleging that the identity of the biological parent of said minor child may be unknown or has not been disclosed to the court, and whose relationship of said possible unknown or undisclosed biological parent to the aforesaid minor child is that of the biological father. As a notified party, you may appear in the adoption proceeding to contest or support the Petition for Adoption.

Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days from the last day this Notice of Adoption Proceeding is published with the attorney for said Petitioner, whose name and address is shown below, and with the Chief Clerk of the Shelby County Probate Court at P.O. Box 825, Columbiana, Alabama 35051. If you fail to respond within said thirty (30) days, the Court may construe that failure as an implied consent to the adoption and as a waiver of a right to appear and of further notice of the adoption proceedings. If the adoption is approved, your parental rights, if any, will be considered terminated.

This the 09 day of April, 2025.

Attorney:
AMY M. OSBORNE ESQ
4770 EASTERN VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 111 THE SHOPPES AT LETSON FARMS, PMB 106 MCCALLA, AL 35111
(205)515-9271

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
GORMAN MAX CULWELL, JR., * **CASE NO.: PC2024-385**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to GRANT ALEXANDER CULWELL as Personal Representative of the Estate of GORMAN MAX CULWELL, JR., deceased, on the 15th day of April, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

GRANT ALEXANDER CULWELL
Administrator

Thomas E. Drake, II
Attorney for Administrator
419 Second Avenue SW
Suite A
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-739-9445 (Phone)

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * **IN THE PROBATE COURT OF**
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * **CASE NO.:** PC2025-110

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JONATHAN DARYL MOSHER, DECEASED,

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to JACOB MOSHER, as Administrator of the Estate of JONATHAN DARYL MOSHER, Deceased, on the 10th day of April, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown.

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.

JACOB MOSHER
Administrator of the
Estate of
Jonathan Daryl Mosher, Deceased

PERRY D. KNIGHT
Attorney for the Estate of
Jonathan Daryl Mosher, Deceased
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

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

STATE OF ALABAMA
NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants terms and conditions of that mortgage from St. Sebastian Estates, LLC, an Limited Liability Company, to BankFirst Financial Services, dated April 3, 2023 and recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama on April 10, 2023, in Mortgage Volume 2046 at Page 304; and
BankFirst Financial Services, as mortgagee, having declared all of the indebtedness secured by said mortgage due and payable and such default continuing, notice is hereby given under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, that BankFirst Financial Services, as mortgagee, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman, Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.) on the 21st day of May, 2025, the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama together with hereditaments and appurtenances there unto belonging and all buildings, structures, fixtures and other improvements now or hereafter existing, erected or installed thereon to-wit:
LOT NUMBER 1 OF SAN ANTONIO, A RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN AND KNOWN ON THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF FILED IN PLAT BOOK 2019 PAGE 44 IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as:

15 San Antonio Drive, Cullman, Alabama 35057;
Parcel ID: 25-22-03-05-0-001-015.002

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, and any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record, including, but not limited to, those superior to said mortgage first set out above.
Said property will be sold on an "AS-IS" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.
ALABAMA LAW GIVES SOME PERSONS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN PROPERTY THE RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. PROGRAMS MAY ALSO EXIST THAT HELP PERSONS AVOID OR DELAY THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. AN ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THESE RIGHTS AND PROGRAMS AS A PART OF THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

BankFirst Financial Services,
as Mortgagee
Lowe, Mobley Lowe & LeDuke
Attorneys for Mortgagee
c/o Jonathan B. Lowe
1210 21st Street
P.O. Box 576
Haleyville, Alabama 35565
Tel: (205)486-5296

Triduum (from Front)

Staff Reports, W.C. Mann
Contributor

The solemnity and seriousness of Holy Week are very evident in the Church of St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman. Crucifixes and images of saints are covered with violet cloth as Christians "fast" from the beauty and comfort of sacred images. Even the Abbey's huge 10-foot Great Cross is shrouded, its bright colors invisible until Easter.

Christians around the world are celebrating Holy Week. It begins on Palm Sunday and lasts through Easter Sunday. Holy Week is the center of the Christian Year, and the heart of Holy Week are the days of Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday, called the Sacred Triduum (Three Days). Especially during these days the Catholic monks of St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman welcome guests to their worship, ancient rites in praise of God who suffered for the world. Though services of prayer are held throughout the day, the principal services at the Benedictine Abbey were/will be as follows:

• Thursday, April 17 (Holy Thursday) — Mass of the Lord's Supper, 4 p.m.

• Friday, April 18 (Good Friday) — Passion of Christ, 3 p.m.; Tenebrae, 7:30 p.m.

• Saturday, April 19 (Holy Saturday) — Easter Vigil (the great Easter Celebration), 8 p.m.

• Sunday, April 20 (Easter Sunday) — Easter Mass, 10:30 a.m.; Solemn Vespers, 5:30 p.m.

"Holy Week begins with Passion (Palm) Sunday, which commemorates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem where, during the coming week, he would suffer, die and rise," said Abbot Marcus Voss, O.S.B., leader of the monastery of about 20 Benedictine monks, explaining that Holy Week continues through to the Easter Triduum, the Great Three Days beginning Holy Thursday Evening and lasting through Easter Sunday Evening.

Why are the crucifixes covered?

In the Church's tradition the veiling of crosses has several meanings: It is a "fasting" from sacred depictions which represent the Easter glory of salvation. Just as the Lenten fast concludes with the Easter feast, so too, fasting from the cross culminates in honoring the cross on which the sacrifice of Calvary was offered for the sins of the world on that first Good Friday. An important part of the Good Friday Liturgy is that honoring of the Cross, which includes its unveiling. Once the Cross has been unveiled, it is logical that all crosses would be unveiled so that they too might be honored by the faithful and remind all of the glory of the Holy Cross of Christ.

Likewise, a fasting from the wonderful images of the mysteries of faith and the saints in glory, ends at the Easter Vigil on Saturday night when all celebrate the victorious Christ, risen from the tomb.

Some writers explain that the veiling is to remind all of Jesus' humiliation and to imprint the image of the crucified Christ more deeply on minds and hearts. The veiling of crosses and images, making them "present" but "absent," draws attention to their importance and beauty – as wonderful objects that remind one of the gift of salvation and the communion of saints.

Celebrating the Easter Triduum

On Holy Thursday the Abbey celebrated the institution of the Mass at the event called The Lord's Supper or Last Supper, and the Abbot washed the feet of twelve men in commemoration of Jesus' washing of his disciples' feet. Holy Thursday is sometimes called "Maundy Thursday" (from the Latin word "mandatum" or "command"), from Jesus' command made on this day that his followers are to love as He loves, demonstrated in the very act of washing feet.

Abbot Marcus said, "On Good Friday is remembered Jesus' perfect act of love: His suffering and death. In that connection the cross is honored with great solemnity.



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holy Week gathering at St. Bernard's Abbey Church

On Holy Saturday all keep watch with Jesus as He lies in the tomb until the darkness of Saturday evening. It is then that light pierces the darkness in the Easter Vigil. The Easter Vigil is the great celebration of Christ's resurrection and victory over death. The service begins in the dark — 8 p.m. on Saturday night when the 'New Fire' is lit outside the Abbey Church. From that fire the Paschal (Easter) Candle, which symbolizes Christ, is lit and taken into the church, where the candles of all worshippers receive the flame from the 'Light of Christ' (Paschal Candle), destroying darkness and flooding the church with light. Finally comes Easter Sunday morning and Easter Mass at 10:30 a.m.

"For almost 2,000 years Christians have worshipped God in special services during these holiest of days, and we are privileged to do the same, and we welcome all to join us."

Obituary Announcements: April 17-18

Margaret Ann Patton, 74

Funeral service for Margaret Ann Patton, 74, of Cullman, will be at 12 p.m., Monday, April 21, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Patton Hill Cemetery, Rev. Keith Whitley officiating. The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. before the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Patton was born on June 2, 1951, to parents, Wilburn and Martha Jean Duckworth Wright. Margaret loved playing BINGO, going to the Senior Center and going on trips with them. She was very humble and always smiling. She could often be found working on puzzle books or watching Andy Griffith or The Golden Girls. She was very loved and will be greatly missed. Mrs. Patton was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Winford Patton; son, Greg Patton. Survivors include her daughters, Melissa Fitzsimmons (Thomas Alexander), Candy Cannon, Jennifer Ertl; sisters, Doris Herron, Patricia (Tommy) Sanders, Brenda Bentley; grandchildren, Jeffery Patton, Nikki Swafford, Brooke Christian, Blake Christian, Clayton Harrison, Tyler Harrison, Preston Harrison, Hunter Lane, Marci Lane, Daisy Ertl, Charner; great-grandchildren, Izabella, Gia, Daphney, Amelia, Symphony, Aurora, Honor, Abbie, Cohen, Izaih; and a host of family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Pamela Rose Gunter, 62

Funeral service for Pamela Rose Griffin Gunter, 62, of Cullman, will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 19, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, Rev. Andrew Heptinstall officiating. The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. before the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Gunter was born on Oct. 24, 1962, to parents, Lesley Amos and Betty Ann White Griffin. Pamela worked many years at CRMC and absolutely loved her job. She loved to take trips to the beach or the mountains and was a member of Temple Baptist Church. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother and she will be greatly missed. Mrs. Gunter was preceded in death by her parents; son, Randy Gunter. Survivors include her husband of 25 years, Randy Gunter, daughter, Kimberly Roseann Adams; brothers, Michael Griffin, Jimmie (Shelia) Griffin; sister, Mary Ann (Bobby) Cox; grandchildren, Myka Adams, Ella Adams, Aubrey Gunter, Aiden Gunter, Adriana Gunter, Avery Gunter, Abel Gunter; and a host of nieces, nephews, co-workers, family and friends.

Charlotte Ann Petrin, 88

Charlotte Ann Petrin, 88, of Hayden, passed away Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. She was born on Dec. 12, 1936, to parents, Donald and Florence Schmidt Michaud. She loved to play Cribbage and motorcycles. Her hobbies included gardening, tending to her flowers and playing with her poodles. She was preceded in death by her parents; sons, Roger Petrin, Allen Petrin; daughter, Jody Petrin; brothers, Michael Michaud, Gerald Michard. Survivors include her sons, David Petrin, Wayne Petrin; daughters, Vicky (Richard) Noel, Debbie Melander (Mike Elliott); brother, Donald (Debby) Michaud; sister, Elizabeth Barker; sister-in-law, Judy Michaud; grandchildren, Brenda Osborn, Richard Noel, Allen Melander, Alysia Blanchard; great-grandchildren, Samantha Osborn, Ashton Melander, Sebastian Noel, Everlee Johnson; and a host of family and friends.

William E. Hatton, 85

William E. Hatton, 85, of Cullman passed away Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at Woodland Village in Cullman. He was born in Flint, Michigan on May 2, 1939, to parents, William and Ada Mae Hatton Sr. He was survived by his wife of 60 years, Laura Hatton; brother, George Hatton of Glennie, MI; sister, Patricia Dickerson of Flint, MI; a very close friend who he felt was his brother, Todd Gammon; and a host of friends, family and loved ones who loved him very much. He will be greatly missed. The family will have a graveside service at 11 a.m., Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at Valley Springs Cemetery.

John Kelly Clark, 44

Funeral service for John Kelly Clark, 44, of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at Bethlehem West Baptist Church with interment in Ebenezer Cemetery, Revs. Anthony Clark and Cory Drummond officiating. Visitation will be held Monday evening from 4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the church. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Clark was born on March 10, 1981, to parents, Mark Earnest and Linda Gayle Hart Clark. Kelly was an outdoorsman and loved hunting and fishing. He loved Auburn football, adventure and traveling, but his greatest joy was spending time with his children and granddaughter. He could always be seen supporting them in whatever sport they were playing. Kelly was a dear friend to many, a loving dad and Pop; he will be dearly missed by all those who knew him. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Earnest and Louise Clark, Guy and Elza Hart; father, Mark Clark; step-father, Kenneth Walker; nephew, Corey Lindsey. Survivors include in mother, Linda Walker; sons, Collin Clark, Carter Clark; daughters, Selena Clark, Ava Clark; granddaughter, Stella Clark; sisters, Karen Clark, Tammy (Tom) Pyeatt; mother of his children, Lori Clark; fiancé, Monica Bates; fiancé's daughter, Gracie Bates; and a host of family and friends. Pallbearers will be Zach Oldacre, Todd Oldacre, Blake Thompson, Scott Couch, Justin Burgess and Blake Freeman.

Burnice 'Junior' Sams, 74

Burnice Junior Sams, 74, of Cullman, passed away Friday, April 18, 2025, at his residence. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Sams was born on April 9, 1951, to parents, Burnice and Audrey Kirby Sams. He was a truck driver and loved trading horses. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers and sisters, Raymond, Lyle, Marie, Betty and Jerry. Survivors include his brother, Ray (Nelda) Sams; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Arvis Wendell Freeman, 83

Arvis Wendell Freeman, age 83, of St. Augustine, Florida, passed away peacefully on April 9, 2025, at the Bailey Family Center for Caring with his family by his side. Born on June 5, 1941, in Cullman, Alabama, he was the son of Loyd and Sillie Mae Freeman. Arvis was raised in the close-knit community of Cold Springs, Alabama where he graduated with the class of 1959 from Cold Springs High School. He served his country in the US Army National Guard during the Vietnam conflict. Arvis met the love of his life, Nell Freeman, on a blind date that turned into a love story spanning 64 beautiful years of marriage. Together, they built a life grounded in love, family, and shared dreams. Arvis began his professional career as an electrician, later discovering a passion for real estate. He owned and operated Freeman Real Estate and, eventually, Freeman Appraisal Company which he operated successfully for many years. Beyond his career, Arvis lived life fully and joyfully. He was a devoted Alabama football fan (Roll Tide!), a lover of motorcycles and Corvettes, and travels to Alaska and the national parks. He was a member of the Lions Club of Cullman. After his retirement he moved to St. Augustine in 1993. Arvis enjoyed gathering with his group of friends at McDonald's, where they would sit for hours, solving the world's problems-one biscuit at a time. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. Arvis was preceded in death by his parents, Loyd and Sillie Mae, and his brother, Eugene. He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Nell Freeman; his daughters, Leigh Flanigan of Jacksonville and Janet (Robert) Swandol of Tallahassee; a brother, Donnie Mack Freeman; and grandchildren, Taylor Johns of Cullman, Abbie Johns of Jacksonville and Conner Swandol of Tallahassee. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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Have your funeral home contact us

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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

A biography with a different ending

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



I did not grow up in a family of readers. Oh, I don't mean my family was illiterate. My parents could read; they simply didn't do much of it. They read what they needed to read, but I can't recall either of them sitting around reading a great deal. They occasionally read a newspaper or magazine but rarely ever a book, and certainly not biographies. The main book my mother read was a book that contained 66 other books. Well, now that I think about it, the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are biographies, so Mom did read those four short biographies many times. Dad may have read those, too, but not that I can remember.

Reading books was not discouraged by my parents, but it wasn't strongly encouraged. Because of that fact, I was probably 12 years old before I ever read a book from cover to cover.

The first book I remember reading in its entirety was a biography. It was the story of Bart Starr.

One of the things about him that attracted me was that he had grown up in my native Alabama. He played football at the University of Alabama, but I was too young to remember that.

I have read that due to injuries and perhaps others reasons, he didn't get a great deal of playing time. He did, however, manage to get drafted by an NFL team, but not until the 17th round. No doubt, many fans didn't think he would make it as a professional player.

He not only made it, but he managed to play for 16 seasons...for the same team.

He led the Green Bay Packers to five NFL championships and won the first two Super Bowls ever played.

He was named MVP for both Super Bowls. Not bad for a kid from Alabama who was the 200th player picked in that year's draft.

Reading Bart Starr's biography began a lifetime of reading books for me. I have read all kinds of books, and even written a few, but my favorites are biographies.

I have read about some of the greatest people who ever lived. I've read the stories of great athletes, soldiers, musicians and entertainers.

I read about many of our nation's founding fathers, including a number of our presidents, then and since.

I have read numerous stories of great Chirstian men and women, including people like Charles Spurgeon, D.L. Moody, Jonathan Edwards, Billy Graham, William Carey and Lottie Moon.

I have read one biography that is different from all the others, because it was about one person who was different from anyone who has ever lived.

Many have accomplished marvelous things, but Jesus did miraculous things.

What he did not only touched the lives of others, but also he changed lives... and still does. In fact, he gives life...eternal life.

This week, we Christians celebrate his life. Strange as it may sound, Friday of this week, we celebrate his death.

Normally, we don't celebrate when someone dies, especially if it is someone we love, but his death was different. We even call that day "Good Friday."

One might expect that day to be called "Bad Friday," but because of what happened three days later, we call it "Good."

The end of Jesus' life wasn't unique in that he died, but why he died, and especially that he did not stay dead. The story in most biographies ends with death.

On the cross, Jesus said, "It is finished," but that didn't mean his life was finished. Sunday, we will celebrate his resurrection. We celebrate his death and life, and we celebrate the life he gives us. Happy Easter, my friends!

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-728-5514 (office).

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: April 19,1945

From the files of April 19,1945

To and Fro
By EAGLE EYE

Friday the thirteenth was a lucky day for competition when the Cullman County High school judging team won the state contest at Auburn. Winning first place, the Ingram News-Herald, the Graton High School, the F. F. A. the Cullman Hi Times were tops and walked away with top honors. This will represent the University in the region finals in Birmingham on May 4th.

Among the first basement parties with football atmosphere, was one given by the Cullman Rotarians and guests. Mrs. John Batte was hostess for the group at her home. Feature event the film of the 1945 Alabama-Duke game cut by the college. Following the showing of the picture, a party was held. Tuscaloosa had nothing on the Iowasum among the first to hold showing the Indians in action.

Terribly disappointed is Mrs. A. Kerr, who expected that she could be very proud of having knitted sleeveless sweaters, scarfs, helmets, gloves, wristlets and socks for the U. S. Soldiers but Mrs. Akers who has charge says this may be held until later for shipment, but that she'll have to roam her eyes a restless way until the home coming soldiers return before she can even be happy until she has completed her task of knitting.

One hundred and twenty seven children were Mrs. Walter Beyer's library patrons at the school library. In fact the children so eager to read that Miss Beyer and her assistant, Mrs. Charles Boschung, is compelled to line them up in order to check in and out their books. There was an even greater rush for books when Book Week made the children more book conscious. The library is open to adults and children every Tuesday afternoon from three o'clock until five thirty. Come over.

For the first time in three years This son of Mrs. Ethel Cook now works. For two and one-half years he has been in England, Scotland, France and Germany. He complains of the dampness and considers himself very fortunate to have returned home safely. He is home on a furlough with a battle star and the bronze star. And the ribbon with a battle star and the bronze star. He is now being given a new assignment.

Returning along in winding her way to the happy hunting ground where her Mother lies buried, was Mrs. M. O. Kellar of Oklahoma, to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. English of this city. In sending a picture clipping from a local paper of an Indian princess who was buried with all the Indian customs. Mother of Mrs. Kellar, Grandmother, Mrs. W. A. Moore, grandmother of Mrs. Kellar, great grandmother, Mary Ann Elizabeth English, was placed in the grave with a jug of water, tin cup, skillet and coffee pot. Belief was then that the evil spirits could not hide treasures in a happy hunting ground, where life was placed there, so the happy hunting ground was placed near by where life had been noble. This spot was chosen by these Indians for the location.

A German officer's bayonet and canteen was returned recently to Sgt. O. E. Kelly, Jr., Route 6, Hanceville, by their son Sgt. O. E. Kelly, Sr. This was captured from a German General of Patch's Seventh Army.

The Pilot Club who recently held their annual election with Mrs. J. W. Arnold president has many years of uninterrupted service. Mrs. J. W. Ziegler is vice-president, William Kenny secretary, Mrs. J. R. Edmondson treasurer. Directors: Mrs. J. D. Moody, Jr., Mrs. G. O. Plunkett, Sr., Mrs. C. E. Pool, Jr., Mrs. J. W. Bland, Mr. and Mrs. Grady Steigler and son Mr. and Mrs. Grady Steigler Jr. It has received notification from the State Association for distinguished service.

CONDITION
YOUR COTTONSEED
Before Planting!

Bring it to us for cleaning, delinting and Ceresan treating. Removes trash, and black and immature seed. Removes fungi, stopping seed rot. Insures faster germination for an earlier and healthier stand which will have a better chance of beating the boll weevil and other crop hazards.

The practice of conditioning cottonseed before planting is increasing rapidly, because farmers who try it see the remarkable benefits. This year we have increased the handling capacity of our seed conditioning plant 50%, and have added a larger, better cleaner.

RATE 60c PER 100 Lbs. OF SEED, NET WEIGHT
WE FURNISH BAGS
Avoid the last minute rush. Bring in your seed early, while we can give you quicker service.

PRODUCERS GIN
Fred S. Hunt — John D. Davis
Corner 2nd St. and 1st Ave., West
Decatur, Alabama — Phone 76

Completing 52 hours of operational flights in transport planes was this pilot flying near the towering peaks of the Himalaya Mountains near Mt. Kanchenjunga, world's third highest mountain. This is Major Jack Cater, son of Mrs. P. Cater. His radio crackled this message one day: "Having extremely treacherous weather."

POET'S CORNER

Easter Joy | By: Randy C. Hale

Dad's got a new white shirt,
mom, a yellow dress.
Little Anna has pink ribbons
and bows for this affair.

Clayton has red suspenders,
a bow tie, bright to see.
And all have new shoes,
from black to shiny pink.

He Arose! He Arose!
Hallelujah! Christ Arose!
The song director leads,
on this fine Easter day.

After church, we'll take pictures,
and soon we shall dine,
the children will hunt eggs,
with excitement in their eyes.

There'll be ham on the table,
so many things to eat,
rolls from the oven and
fresh cook string beans.

Cakes baked to perfection,
and we shall take a slice.
Spend time together
and laugh about our lives.

But what we hold precious,
will slip from us in time.
Some will leave us, and
break our hearts inside.

But Easter is about living,
resurrection from death.
We hold to this promise
until our last breath.

And if this is our last gathering
when Easter is done.
We trust in His promise
that our life hast just begun.

He Arose! He Arose!
Hallelujah! Christ Arose!
Because He lives
all fear is gone.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

APRIL 19

R O V E D A M Q R E G N O S A U R U S
T T X O X A L O A B E L I S A U R U S
D H Z C F P T A R C H I A J M I N M I
R N X E F A T R I M U C R O D O N H C
Y E O R P T A L I W A L I A E D E Y V
P I S A N O S A U R U S H O I K E P Q
T L R T C D K L S S S T T A N I U S W
O I S O E O J I U P R R N O O O E I C
S A E P K N V P O I I O D R N R D L H
A K I S X A O T P S D O P O Y N M O E
U B S O O T A T U O L D L C C I O P N
R K M T L R H R H U J O E C H T N H D
U Q O A E I U T A O B N S O O H T O U
S R S C O A N C W X L T I S S O O D S
P L A O S A U R U S A U O A A M N O A
G V U O G C O E L U R U S U U I I N U
A G R O S A U R U S G I A R R M A S R
U O U S C A E T O N Y X U U U U S O U
T I S T E G O C E R A S R S S S Y C S

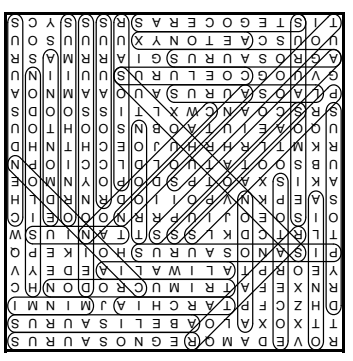
Abelisaurus
Aetonyx
Agrosaurus
Aliwalia
Anthodon
Apatodon
Avaceratops
Caulodon
Chendusaurus
Cionodon
Coelurus
Deinonychosaurus
Dryptosaurus
Edmontonia
Eoceratops
Hypsilophodon
Laosaurus
Minmi
Ornithomimus
Othneilia
Pisanosaurus
Plesiosaur
Protoavis
Rapator
Regnosaurus
Roccosaurus
Saltopus
Seismosaurus
Stegoceras
Stenotholus
Tanius
Tarchia
Torosaurus
Trimucrodon
Troodon

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

APRIL 19

1								8
		2						
6						5	9	1
				8		7		
		5	4				8	
		3			5			6
	4		5			1		
8				7	2			4
	6		9					3

ANSWERS:



1	9	4	6	5	7	3	2	8
5	3	2	8	9	1	6	4	7
6	7	8	2	4	3	5	9	1
4	2	6	1	8	9	7	3	5
7	1	5	4	3	6	2	8	9
9	8	3	7	2	5	4	1	6
3	4	9	5	6	8	1	7	2
8	5	1	3	7	2	9	6	4
2	6	7	9	1	4	8	5	3

Celebrating Wallace State

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FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXCELLENCE
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RISING STAR
2025

Wallace State Community College was recognized with the 2025 Rising Star Award by the Aspen Institute. Please join us in celebrating the College's success and the students, faculty, staff, community partners, supporters and friends who make Wallace State one of the Top 3 community colleges in the nation.

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