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Clint HOLLINGSWORTH
REPUBLICAN
House District 12
Vote
JULY 15

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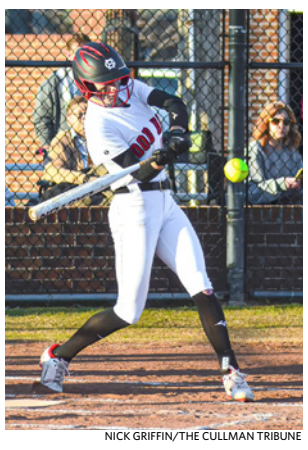
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NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

'It was the best time of my life': Good Hope's Brooklynn Lambert looks back on Raider years

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City, County officials share perspectives on Rock the South's impact, costs, responsibilities


CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Concertgoers pose for a photo at Rock the South 2022.

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — As Rock the South is set to return for a three-day run June 19–21, questions about who pays for what — and why — continue to circulate among Cullman County residents. Of-ficials from both the City of Cull-man and Cullman County offered detailed responses to address public concerns about expenses, safety and the festival's value to the community.

Luke Satterfield, attorney with the City of Cullman, ad-dressed concerns over nearly $200,000 in unpaid expenses from last year's festival.

"Our Special Event Ordi-nance now addresses this," Satterfield said. "The in-voiced amount shall be paid prior to the permit of the fes-tival becoming effective." He noted that should there be an overpayment, the City would return the excess. "Under the law, we cannot provide things of value or aid to any person or private entity; therefore, we have a mutual under-standing that in the in-terest of public safety/welfare, we have to be reimbursed."

When asked about spend-ing on tents, food and drinks, Satterfield clarified, "The City no longer spends any money on a tent. Since we modernized and updated our Special Event Ordinance, we no longer have a contract with them." He added, "Visit Cullman...has gotten a tent in the past; however, that is not a department of the City, so I am not sure what they have planned this year."

Satterfield underscored the festival's significance. "Rock the South is import-ant because of the economic impact it has on all of Cull-man County," he said.

"Approximately 90% of attendees are from outside of the county." While Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism hosts larger fes-ti-vals, Satterfield said RTS "is self-sustaining now and on private property, so the City makes no in-vestment and is compensated for our services."

Addressing public safety concerns, Satterfield said, "RTS does provide security, off-duty first re-sponders and Region 6 police officers — all of whom contract with RTS directly and are not affiliat-ed with the City." He described a highly coordinated effort involving local and regional partners. "Our primary focus is ensuring the city is covered while the festival is taking place."

On the matter of unpaid services, Satterfield was clear: "By law, we cannot (offer services for free)... because we are on private property and dealing with a private entity." He noted that ser-vices could be offered at no cost for events on public property, such as Heritage Park or at down-town city events.

John Bullard, Cullman County administrator, of-fered a different perspective on the County's in-volve-ment.

"In Fiscal Year 2024 the total cost for deputies and EMA personnel overtime for RTS was $88,006.02," Bullard said. "Law enforcement and emergency management per-sonnel are the only employ-ees that are paid overtime for this event."

Those expenses are "paid from the County Gen-eral Fund, with no reimburse-ment."

Bullard noted » PAGE 6

Hall announces candidacy for Cullman City Council Place 5


CONTRIBUTED
Kim Hall
» PAGE 2

McWhorter announces candidacy for Alabama House District 12


CONTRIBUTED
Dan McWhorter
» PAGE 2

Powell announces candidacy for Hanceville City Council


CONTRIBUTED
Robert Powell
» PAGE 2

Santiago announces candidacy for mayor of Hanceville


CONTRIBUTED
Oscar Santiago
» PAGE 2

Jones Chapel VFD compiling list of private storm shelters


CLINT THRASHER
An example of a privately owned storm shelter
» PAGE 8

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 19

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 19, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

May 15

- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69S
- domestic violence; CR 1247
- obstructing governmental operations; resisting arrest; Hwy. 278E
- domestic violence; CR 1592
- theft of property; CR 1534

May 16

- domestic violence; CR 616
- giving false name to law enforcement officer to avoid arrest; Hwy. 69S
- harassing communications; CR 4
- burglary; CR 438
- violation of protection order; CR 771
- domestic violence; CR 606

May 17

- harassing communications; CR 1592
- domestic violence; CR 385
- burglary; Whaley Ave. NE Hanceville
- theft of property; Hwy. 69S
- domestic violence; CR 1592
- possession of dangerous drugs; Hwy. 69S
- theft of property; CR 388
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 599
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69S
- interference with a domestic violence call; domestic violence; College Dr. NE Hanceville

May 18

- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 437
- unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle; criminal mischief; CR 1428
- harassment; CR 1059
- domestic violence; CR 284
- domestic violence; Main St. NW Hanceville
- trespassing; CR 1059
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 56

ARRESTS

May 15-18

Aldridge, Dena J.; 45
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Baker, Heath A.; 38
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Briscoe, Douglas B.; 42
- possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)

Calvert, Shona N.; 38
- assault-harassment

Chambers, Angela G.; 51
- assault-child abuse-simple-family (2 counts)
- possession of dangerous drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Clay, Cody L.; 36
- criminal trespass

Coots, Steven R.; 53
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- sale of stolen property, less than $500

Forman, Makayla R.; 28
- GJ – fraudulent use of a credit/debit card (2 counts)

Fucci, Leigh H.; 47
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Gable, Johnathon L.; 31
- possession of cocaine
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Graves, Kevin D.; 39
- violation of an elder abuse protection order
- possession of dangerous drugs
- public intoxication

Guffey, Shawn D.; 29
- obstruction-governmental operations
- resisting arrest
- failure to signal

Hudson, Danny R.; 46
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of dangerous drugs

Hyatt, Brian C.; 59
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Johnson, Tanya L.; 49
- DIVERSION VIOLATION – unlawful distribution of controlled substances (2 counts)

Jones, Melanda N.; 42
- possession of cocaine
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Martinez, Amy M.; 47
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Parker, Bryan A.; 35
- FTA – possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Partain, Alana N.; 54
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Slaten II, Dwight E.; 53
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Smith, Tommy J.; 37
- DUI (alcohol)

Sullins, Carl B.; 65
- FTA – criminal trespass
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs

Teal, Kevin R.; 53
- FTA – receiving stolen property, $1500 or more
- FTA – burglary-residence-force
- FTA – driving while license suspended

Tennison, Candace R.; 42
- DUI (controlled substances)

Tully, Bailey S.; 22
- using false identity to avoid arrest/hinder protection

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

May 12

- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; 3rd Ave. NE
- theft of property-3rd degree; Branham Tire & Accessories; tires; $718; Arnold St. NW
- forgery-3rd degree; person; forged check

May 16

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $63; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash
- harassing communications; person
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $62; Olive St. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $136; Olive St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Marie St. NW

May 17

- theft of property-4th degree; M&M Mini Mart; general merchandise; $25; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $46; Olive St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person; Lessman Cir. SW

May 18

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $55; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS

May 16-18

Purdy, Phillip A.; 61
- menacing

Forman, Makayla R.; 28
- theft of property-4th degree

Creager, Jeri K.; 47
- theft of property-4th degree

Mendez, Wilber P.; 23
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Tennison, Candace R.; 42
- attempt to elude
- resisting arrest
- obstructing governmental operations
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Bowens, Anya M.; 44
- theft of property-4th degree

Garcia, Ceferino T.; 25
- public intoxication
- unlawful possession/receiving a controlled substance

Hutchinson, Kayla B.; 25
- unlawful possession/receiving a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Sandlin, Isaac J.; 23
- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – driving without license

Baker, Kimberly L.; 54
- theft of property-4th degree

Estes, Gayla N.; 53
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Simms, John A.; 45
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Powell (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Robert Powell has announced his candidacy for Hanceville City Council.

Below is Powell's announcement, unedited and in full.

Hanceville native and educator Robert Powell has officially announced his candidacy for Hanceville City Council.

Powell, a 2016 graduate of Hanceville High School, earned degrees from Wallace State and UAB, where he completed his teaching degree in 2024. He currently teaches Government and Economics and serves on the Hanceville Planning Commission.

His campaign centers on two key priorities: transparency and prosperity.

"I believe government should work for the people, and that starts with keeping citizens informed, whether it's about budgeting, development, or public safety," Powell said. "People deserve to feel empowered, not left in the dark."

Powell lives in Hanceville with his wife and daughter. He says he's committed to supporting smart growth, attracting high-paying jobs, and backing first responders, all while reducing the burden on homeowners. His full campaign platform is available on his campaign page.

"Hanceville has incredible potential," he added. "I'm ready to work hard, lead with integrity, and help build a stronger, more transparent future together."

Residents can follow Powell's campaign page online for updates and opportunities to get involved.

Hanceville's Municipal Election will take place Aug. 26, 2025.

McWhorter (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Dan McWhorter on Monday, May 19, announced his candidacy for Alabama House of Representatives District 12.

Election details

Gov. Kay Ivey set special election dates for Alabama House District 12.

This seat was previously held by Rep. Corey Harbison, R-Good Hope, who resigned April 15, 2025.

The Special Primary Election for this seat will be Tuesday, July 15, 2025; the special primary runoff, if necessary, will be Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2025; and the special general election will be Tuesday, Oct.28, 2025.

Below is McWhorter's campaign announcement, unedited and in full.

Dan McWhorter of Bremen, Alabama announced today that he will be running for state representative for the 12th District in Cullman County. Dan proudly started his company, Innovative Analytical Solutions LLC, over 11 years ago which has prospered under his ownership and hard work.

"I am proud and excited to announce my candidacy for the Republican nomination for State Representative. Fiscal management and strong leadership are crucial in the difficult economic times which lie ahead."

My platform is as follows:

1. A cap on all Cullman County Property taxes for Senior Citizens 65 or older.
2. A clean (no other attachments) Lottery bill that will fund 2 years of college tuition for any high school graduate with a C average to a trade school, technical school or a 2-year junior college.
3. Eliminate Daylight Savings Time. Alabama can fall back and not spring forward.
4. No State taxes on overtime wages.

Hall (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Former Cullman High School Principal Kim Hall has announced her candidacy for Cullman City Council Place 5.

Below is Hall's announcement, unedited and in full.

Kim Hall, a lifelong educator, community servant, small business owner, and leadership consultant, has officially announced her candidacy for Place 5 on the Cullman City Council. Rooted in faith, family, and a passion for building strong communities, Hall is entering the race with a bold platform focused on smart growth, transparent leadership, and a bright future for Cullman.

A graduate of Cullman High School, Hall holds a bachelor's degree from Athens State University, a master's degree from the University of Alabama, and an Educational Specialist degree from the University of North Alabama. Her career spans over 30 years in education serving in Cullman City Schools, including service as Cullman High School principal, and most recently a state and national level school improvement leadership consultant.

Hall is a graduate of Cullman Chamber of Commerce Leadership Cullman, was named United Way Loaned Executive of the Year, former Cullman City Schools' Foundation Board Member and recipient of the Cullman Fine Arts Legacy Award. In 2024, she became certified as a John Maxwell Certified Leadership Coach.

Hall currently serves as Director of Leadership Development for Bailey Education Group.

"I'm running for Place 5 because I believe Cullman's best days are ahead — and I want to help lead us there," said Hall. "I bring experience solving complex challenges, a heart for public service, and a deep love for this community."

She and her husband, Mark Hall, own and operate Cullman AutoMall and they are active members of Temple Baptist Church. Her parents, Max and Kay Townson, exemplified community service during Max's two terms as Mayor of Cullman — a legacy of leadership and civic dedication that continues to inspire her.

"I am ready to serve the City of Cullman with experience, transparency, and a commitment to building a strong future for our citizens," Hall said. "I will serve with energy, compassion, and an unwavering focus on what's best for our families, neighborhoods, businesses and future."

Cullman's Municipal Election will take place Aug. 26, 2025.

Santiago (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Oscar Santiago on Monday, May 19, declared his candidacy for mayor of Hanceville.

Santiago's full, unedited announcement is below.

After 40 years of calling Hanceville home and serving as a dedicated leader both in the military and the community, Oscar Santiago is proud to officially announce his candidacy for Mayor of Hanceville. With a proven record of strategic leadership, accountability, and unwavering commitment to the people, Oscar is eager to bring fresh energy and meaningful reforms to the city he loves.

A retired Navy Commander, Oscar built a distinguished career in the U.S. Navy, where he was responsible for leading teams, managing multimillion-dollar budgets, and making high-pressure decisions that shaped the success of countless operations. Since transitioning to civilian leadership, he has applied his skills in corporate management and community engagement to strengthen local initiatives and support the residents of Hanceville.

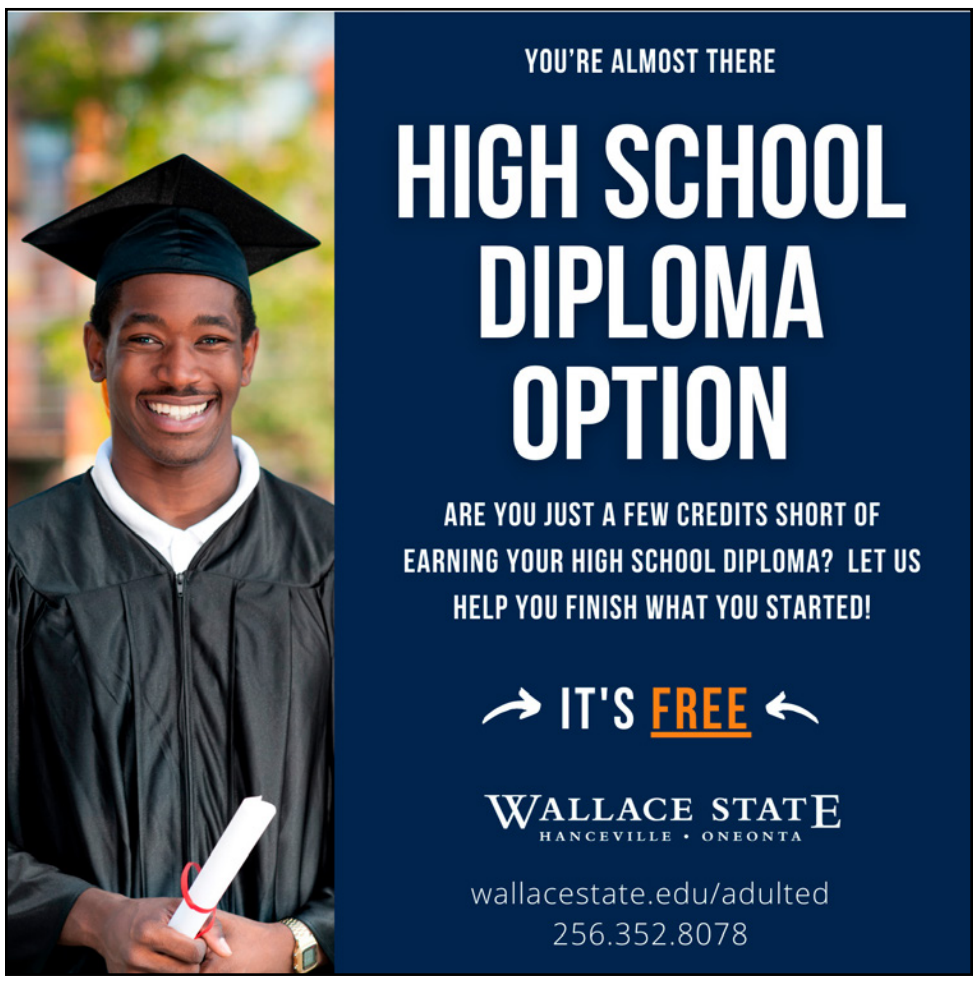
"My mission is simple: to make Hanceville a safer, stronger, and more united city. I've seen firsthand the incredible potential of this community, and I am committed to ensuring that our parks, police department, and local businesses reflect the integrity and quality our residents deserve."

Oscar's vision includes bold initiatives such as rebuilding the police department with a focus on transparency and accountability, enhancing parks and recreation to create more welcoming spaces for families, and regulating predatory businesses to protect the most vulnerable members of the community. He has also pledged strong support for youth programs, including securing resources for Hanceville's football initiatives, recognizing the vital role they play in shaping the next generation.

With a lifetime of experience in leadership, strategic planning, and community development, Oscar Santiago is ready to serve as a mayor who listens, leads, and delivers results.

As the campaign moves forward, he invites all residents to engage in open dialogue and share their aspirations for the city's future.

Hanceville's Municipal Election will take place Aug. 26, 2025.



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The Flying Fifty Hotel hosting block party June 1

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Flying Fifty Hotel is teaming up with on-site businesses to host a Summer Block Party on Sunday, June 1, from 2-5 p.m.

Owner Challie Knetter said since all of the spaces are now open, the hotel wanted to celebrate with the community in the form of a block party event.

"There will be food giveaways, a hotel tour, live music and special guests at the event," Knetter said.

"It will be a building-wide bash, and there will be something for everyone."

Other participating businesses include Jubilee Coffee and Wine Bar, Sipsey Vineyard and Winery, Seven Daughters Scoops and Cullman Savings Bank.

They will all be hosting different giveaways.

"It will be free to attend, there will be giveaways along with various items that can be purchased as well," Knetter said.

"It's going to be a great time with the community."

The Flying Fifty Hotel is located at 515 Fourth St. SW in Cullman.

For more information, follow The Flying Fifty Hotel on Facebook or call 256-793-0115.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Attention Senior Citizens
• If you are 60 or over, please come to the Cullman Senior Center at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW and have some fun with us and eat lunch. Good fun, good friends and good food. Different things going on Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-noon.
• Volunteers needed to deliver meals to homebound. Call Commission on Aging for info. 256-734-1241.

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 direct-ly 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 im-provements 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 liter-ature 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 encour-agement 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 mes-sage of hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own attitudes. We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a religious one, but a spiritual way of life. Meetings will be held at The Ruehl Building (Family Life Center of St. John's Church) Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

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

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

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Wednesday, May 21 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimo-nies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, May 23 - Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Sunday, May 25 - 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. Healing service at 5 p.m.

Guy Hunt Library Summer Reading Program
• Make plans to join us at Guy Hunt Library in Holly Pond on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for the Summer Reading Program. Children from ages 2 to 12 are welcome.
• June 3: McWane Science Center
• June 10: Cullman County Soil and Water Conservation District
• June17: Cullman County Extension Office (ACES)
• June 24: North Alabama Agriplex
• Drinks and snacks will be provided. For more information contact Guy Hunt Library at 256-796-5226. Leave a message if needed. We look forward to having you join us for a morning of fun.

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.

Bates Family Reunion
Saturday, June 14, at 11 a.m. at the Trimble Community Center, 7744 County Road 813. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy the fellowship.

Fairview High School Class of 1975 Reunion
Saturday, June 21, at 6 p.m. at The Venue, 8575 Alabama Highway 69 N, Cullman, AL 35058. Cost is $45 per person. Contact Sheila Woods to RSVP at 256-347-6738. Looking forward to seeing every-one and having a great time.

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Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MAY 20, 2025

PREP SOFTBALL

‘It was the best time of my life’: Good Hope’s Brooklynn Lambert looks back on Raider years

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Good Hope senior Brooklynn Lambert played softball for the final two years of her high school career and before she collected her diploma on Saturday, she made a lot of memories alongside her friends and teammates. She had so many favorite memories from her time playing softball, and she soaked up as much as she could from her teammates.

"Last year was my first year on JV, and we won county. This year, I moved up to varsity, and we won varsity and area. The girls I played with felt like family and the coaches. Some of my other favorite memories was going down to the beach for spring break with the softball team and just getting to hang out and have fun. Another one would be when I'm in the outfield with my other outfielders, and we would just have fun out there. Every time Molly threw a strike, we're screaming at the top of our lungs, one-by-one-by-one, Woo, or when all of us were in the dugout were going crazy and being obnoxious, just having fun. Those memories are just bittersweet," Lambert said. "It was the best time of my life, for sure. It was like family. We had great team chemistry and bonding. We all wanted the same goals, and we were all there for each other, especially through the rough times. Rough practices and games only brought us closer and stronger. This team was just amazing, and I wouldn't have traded anything in the world for these last two years playing with them. I learned teamwork from them, and to learn how to flush the bad thoughts away. Even though I still struggled with not flushing and moving on from making a mistake, the team taught me that it's okay to make a mistake. One mistake doesn't define you as a player. My teammates were always there to pick me up when I fell short or made a mistake. I learned that it's important to always have your teammates' back and be encouraging."

Brooklynn will never forget the things that she learned from all her coaches, and they made a huge impact in her life.

"It was great. I had four awesome coaches that believed in me and the team. They never stopped pushing me and the girls. They taught me a lot of life lessons. I remember several times in practice where coach Tim Tucker was explaining to us that not only are you playing a sport, but what you are out here doing, the hard work that you put in, and having heart, you carry that with you as life goes when you're at your job or college. It was just truly amazing to play under such great coaches that loved us and loved this sport, and they coached me and everyone to always be the best they can be. My first year playing, I played first base for the JV team, and then senior year, I went to right field. It was very different and had to learn all about right field, and coach Phillip Keef, our outfield coach, taught me everything and helped me gain confidence in that position. He was always there if I needed anything, and I could never thank him enough for everything he has done for me and my other coaches. It was truly an honor to play for such great coaches." Lambert said. "I learned that everything you do, you have to have heart and effort, because if you don't, you're not going to be your best or do your best. I learned that having confidence is important, because you have to believe in yourself that you can do anything. I've learned from them that. whether at softball or in life, there's going to be tough times, and you may feel like you want to quit, but you just have to keep pushing yourself, not only for yourself, but for people who count on you."

Brooklynn was part of so many great games during her career, and she will remember and miss so much about playing for Good Hope.

"My favorite games were when we won area and county. Area was fun, because we got to host it and win the championship on the field. The second game we played in the tournament was against Danville. We didn't start the game until seven, and in the first inning, we put up seven runs. It was just so energetic and fun. We were having fun, and we were playing good softball. We got to play them for the area championship, and when we won, it was just amazing, because we got the number one seed for our area going into Regionals for the first time in a few years," Lambert said. "I will remember playing with the best group of girls and coaches and getting to win area. I will remember all the hard times and good times I went through with this team, but I will always remember the life lessons I learned from my coaches. It still, to this day, shocks me that I never wanted to play this sport and thought this was the worst and boring sport. My best friend, Haley Lay, though, was always begging me, encouraging me to play softball, along with her parents and my parents. I'm so very thankful I decided to play softball, because the memories I made and the great group of girls I played with will always be my favorite memories. I will miss playing softball with the best group of girls, my best friend, the great coaches I was coached by, and the Good Hope community supporting us and cheering us on."

Brooklynn had a blast playing with the seniors on the team, and she took away so much from each of them.

"It was great, bittersweet, and just a blessing to play with some great seniors. I'm going to miss playing with them. Each one of them had great talent and are great people that are going to be successful when they get older. It was definitely fun and memorable playing with them. They were great leaders, and I'm glad to be a part of a great group of seniors. I think we can all agree that this year flew by, and the other seniors were there longer than me. Addyson, Haley, and Natalie were there for six years, and I was only there for two, but they made me feel like I've been playing with them all my life. It was just a blessing to get to play with them and grow with them."

Brooklynn added, "I learned perseverance from them, because those girls have been there for a long time, and they kept coming back, despite how good the team was over their six years of playing. They never gave up on themselves or on the team. They showed true dedication, and I learned that it takes hard work, effort, and pushing yourself to achieve big things and to make yourself proud."

Lambert shared some of her favorite memories made during her time in school as well.

"Some of my top memories were going to pep rallies and football games, watching the girls' basketball team win state and get state runner-up, playing softball, watching my best friend sign to continue playing softball at the next level and just being so proud of her, and rolling our principal's house and our Tribe teacher's house for our senior prank. My favorite memory is when my most favorite teacher came to Good Hope my freshman year. He also became our Tribe teacher for the rest of high school. His name is Mr. Thomas. He is the coolest teacher ever, and he's been there since day one. I'm just never going to forget the memories that were made in his classroom with the best people," she said. "What made Good Hope a special place to go to were the people and the teachers. I have been at Good Hope since kindergarten, and I have had great teachers and coaches in the past. I've made friends during my time at Good Hope, but all of my teachers, coaches, and friends have made a huge impact on my life and helped me be the person I am today. I'm so thankful that my parents put me in Good Hope."

Brooklynn will deeply miss being a Raider in August and she wants to be a role model for not only the younger players on the team, but for the younger kids that were watching her play.

"I will remember playing softball, my friends, my great teachers and administrators, my coaches, and just the memories I made at Good Hope. I will miss Mr. Thomas the most. He was always cool and just there for me, and I will miss my parents watching me play sports at Good Hope," she said, "It was super important. It felt good to be in that position where I was being looked up to. There were times it never really felt like I was being watched, or looked up to, but there really is always someone watching that looks up to you. It was always awesome, while I was playing right field, hearing some of the little kids for Good Hope saying, 'You're doing great, Brooklynn', or 'Good job. Keep going, Brooklynn'. It was just the sweetest, and it felt good knowing that I'm encouraging not only the younger girls on the team, but the younger kids as well. I wanted to always show them to always give effort, no matter what, and to never give up. I hope that shows and encourages the younger players on the team and also, the younger kids, to do the same in anything they do."

She shared some advice for the students that will be starting high school in August some advice.

"My advice to them is to soak up everything, because time flies by before you know it. Do things you've always wanted to do, find great friends that push you and believe in you, do things you love, and to always do your best and give effort in all that you do, because it will pay off in the end. Participate in sports, clubs, or any other school activities, because that's where you will find your other family that believes in you and wants nothing but the best for you," she said.

"I was in the National Honor Society for four years, and I was the Parliamentarian for that club. I was in the Student Government Association for three years. That experience was awesome, participating and serving for our community and others. Both clubs really believed in doing for others and the community. We would host community activities like our first Spring Fest this past spring, Halloween Truck-or-Treats, and SGA did activities around the school, such as homecoming and the dance. We cleaned up the Good Hope parks this past spring. I learned how to speak in front of people. I was an officer in NHS, and for the induction, I had to go up in front of parents, teachers, and students, and talk in front of them about our club.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Good Hope’s Brooklyn Lambert

I've learned to always help the community, be a volunteer, and always be a helping hand for anyone."

Good Hope's softball team dealt with a tragic loss during the season, as one of the softball players' parents passed away, and everyone was there for their teammate. Brooklynn believes that moment helped bring the team even closer together.

"It was a very devastating and tragic event that happened. It was just so shocking and unexpected. It was heartbreaking. We were at practice when we found out, and she had left halfway through, and when Mr. Brown told us the news, it was just heartbreaking. It all made us realize that anything could happen to any of us and that we need to be more appreciative of life. Being there for her and her mom was a big thing for us. We all loved them so much, and although it was a huge loss for them, it was for us, because that man loved watching us play. He was so nice, and honestly, probably one of our biggest supporters, not only for us, but for our teammate. It made us realize that we should always be there for each other, always show love, kindness, and compassion to the ones you love and to those around you.

"With that huge loss, we dedicated the rest of the season to her and her mom, and to Kelly. We would wear blue and green ribbons, her and her mom's favorite colors," Brooklynn said.

"It meant a lot to do all of that for her and her family. It was very emotional during that time, but that Thursday, the day after it happened, Gracie showed up, and her mom did too, who was also our coach. When they saw the ribbon, they were crying, but they had a smile on their face, because I think it made them feel somewhat better to know that we were right there with them to support them and be there for them. The softball team went to the funeral, and we all hugged her and her mom and some of Kelly's family.

"They were glad we were there supporting all of them. It was hard and just so heartbreaking and all the small things or anything you can do will mean a lot to anyone that is going through a hard time."

God has played a pivotal role in Brooklynn's life, and she shared a couple of her favorite Bible verses.

"God has played such a huge role in my life. He has carried me through so many challenges, hard challenges, but He put me through those challenges for a reason: to make me stronger and a better person. I've had some really tough times in my life, and I'm so thankful for the people that He has put into my life to help me get out of situations that I never thought I was ever going to get out of or overcome challenges. I can't thank Him enough for blessing me with an amazing brother who has been there for me through our hard times of life and being my best friend. He helped me have courage to fight for us and showed me how important it is to have a brother like him. I can't thank God enough for my best friend, Haley Lay, who has also been there for me through my hard times and teaching me how to overcome challenges. God has blessed me with the privilege of being at Good Hope with a great community. He has blessed me with great parents, family, and friends that believe in me."

She added, "My favorite Bible verses are 2 Corinthians 12:10, and Deuteronomy 31:6. These verses mean a lot to me, because I've dealt with a lot of anxiousness, fear, and feeling less than for several years. When I would feel that way, these verses just reassure me that everything will be okay and to not be scared. God has a perfect plan, and He will always be there for me, no matter what happens."

Brooklynn always wanted to be an inspiration to kids on and off the softball field as well and She wants to be remembered as someone that always gave her best effort.

"I think I was a good inspiration. I love kids, and I always try to give little kids fist bumps, because at school, when younger kids would see us big kids, they would be so excited and shocked to see big kids. Getting the chance to acknowledge them, giving them fist bumps, or talking to them was just awesome. There were a couple of times that a younger kid would be like, 'I can't wait to grow as big as you and do what you do.' Our senior night pep rally during football season, I remember that we gave the kindergarteners a little gift from the senior class, and when I gave mine to one, her face just lit up and was so happy. It was just awesome to see and feel how much these kids look up to not only me, but to big kids in school and in sports," Lambert said. "I hope they remember me as a good student and athlete. I also want people to remember me as someone that was funny, mainly around my teammates, someone that put a lot of effort into everything that I do, and someone that has a lot of dedication and passion, no matter what I'm doing."



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4 for $5
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Summertime Favorite
$4.99 EA.
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BI-COLOR OR YELLOW CORN
Fresh
Florida Grown
2 ears $1
PARKAY MARGARINE 12 Oz. Squeeze 2 for $5
HOT price

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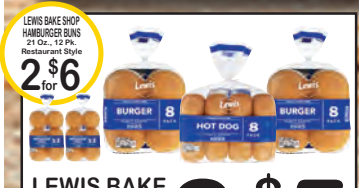


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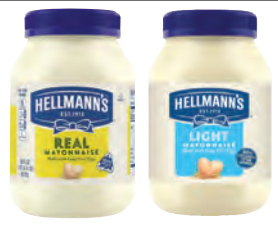
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‘We’re proud of what we’ve created together’

East Elementary Outdoor Classroom Recognition and Appreciation Ceremony

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Students, faculty, staff and community partners gathered on Friday, May 16, to celebrate exciting additions to the East Elementary School outdoor classroom, a growing space of education and environmental stewardship.

“This garden is more than just a collection of plants,” said teacher and Garden Club Sponsor Leeanna Smith. “It’s a space that embodies creativity, accessibility and collaboration across our entire school community.”

Among the most meaningful changes to the outdoor classroom is a newly renovated accessibility ramp complete with raised garden beds and a trellis, which allows students of all abilities to enjoy planting, harvesting and greenery.

“This area was designed so that everyone can participate. It reflects our values of inclusion and hands-on learning,” shared Smith.

Other additions include a greenhouse, composting bins and a strawberry pyramid funded by a donation from former Rep. Randall Shedd, R-Fairview. Shedd was presented with his own keepsake bee house as a token of thanks.

“Our strawberry pyramid has already become a student favorite.

”We’re grateful to Congressman Shedd for helping us bring it to life and supporting hands-on learning,” said Smith.

The outdoor classroom’s expansion also includes a larger pollinator garden bordered by a sustainable bamboo fence, additional raised beds and an art installation called the “rock snake,” created under the guidance of art teacher Lea Casey. Students decorated each rock to add a personal touch.

The celebration also recognized the outdoor classroom’s most prominent supporters, including the Cullman City Schools Foundation, which funded green initiatives such as composting systems, a greenhouse, and a vermicomposting worm habitat. The Operation Round Up Board provides classroom essentials that support garden-based learning.

Community volunteers Don Scott, Jeff Core, Jerome Woods and David James built trellises, installed beds and repaired the ramp.

The Cullman City Schools maintenance team, including Mike Kilpatrick, Hayden Faulk, Roman Shields, Gary Lay, Chris Parker and Jeff Thomas, all worked behind the scenes to bring many of the projects to life.

Volunteers were given engraved hammers, and city leaders were given handcrafted bee houses.

Special thanks were also extended to the North Alabama Agriplex and the school’s cherished “Garden Golden Girls,” whose presence adds joy to Garden Club meetings and special events. City and school leaders in attendance included Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff; school board members Jill Bradbury and Cheryl Harrison; Cullman City Council members Johnny Cook and Jenny Folsom; and Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs.

The ceremony concluded with a student-led tour of the outdoor classroom and a performance of “The Frog Song,” which was composed many years ago by former Cullman City Schools music teacher Tim Clemmons.

“Our garden continues to grow in size and purpose because of the collective care of our community,” said Smith.

“It truly takes a village — and we’re proud of what we’ve created together.”



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

East Elementary School held an Outdoor Classroom Recognition and Appreciation Ceremony on Friday, May 16, 2025.

CCPS kindergartners shine in ‘Barnyard Moosical’

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Kindergarten students at Cullman City Primary School (CCPS) brought a joyful and fun musical celebration to the stage last week, as part of “A Barnyard Moosical,” designed to inspire creativity, confidence and community among the district’s youngest students.

“A Barnyard Moosical” was held on May 15, at Cullman City Primary School, set on a quirky farm telling the tale of a one-of-a-kind group of barnyard animals.

From gourmet goats who refuse to eat garbage, to a chorus line of dancing cows, squeaky-clean pigs and funky chickens with some serious dance moves, the show delivered laughter and smiles from start to finish.

Many students proudly delivered speaking parts, gaining confidence and building communication skills in the process.

Thanks to weekly art and music classes at CCPS, even the youngest learners are given the opportunity to explore their creativity, express themselves and develop a lifelong love for the arts.

“Our students have worked incredibly hard on this musical, and I was so very proud of them!,” Mary Lauren Samplaski, CCPS music teacher, said.

“Performing instills a confidence in students that will serve them well all throughout their lives.”

The performance highlighted not only the children’s musical and theatrical talents, but also the lasting impact of arts education in early childhood that remains a key priority in Cullman City Schools.





CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

Kindergartners at Cullman City Primary School performed “A Barnyard Moosical” on May 15, 2025.

Jim Phillips visits Cullman Senior Center

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Alabama historian, speaker, explorer, treasure hunter and collector Jim Phillips visited the Cullman Senior Center earlier this month. He shared items he’s uncovered over the past 40 years, including old coins, paper currency and antique bottles, some dating back to the 1800s. Guests were also invited to bring in their own treasures and findings for him to examine.

“I’ve always been fascinated by old things,” Phillips said. “Growing up in Blount County, as a little boy riding through the countryside I’d see old houses and wonder about their history. Who built that house? I’ve always been fascinated by old things. And I love the South. I mean, I love the countryside and the pastures and the grass meadows and the forest. I just love it.”

Eventually, he began a video production business that soon transformed into a passion for local history. After producing documentaries on the history of St. Clair County, Phillips started digging at historical sites and giving presentations. He’s since presented over 1,400 programs at senior centers, libraries and churches.

He said his most memorable finds are a rare Motlow Distilling Company whiskey bottle from the early 1900s in Birmingham and a Confederate belt buckle. His most prized artifact is a gold and diamond infant ring.

Phillips also reminded the audience that Alabama is home to some of the most valuable soda bottles in U.S. history, including 1901 Coca-Cola Hutchinson bottles worth thousands, some of which have been found right here in Cullman.

“You don’t have to go far to find history,” he said. “It’s right beneath your feet.”



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Alabama historian, speaker, explorer, treasure hunter and collector Jim Phillips visited the Cullman Senior Center in early May.



Perspectives (from Front)

that while the Cullman County Commission doesn't fund tents or services directly, "The Cullman County Industrial Development Authority, alongside other local economic and tour-ism agencies, contributed as a sponsor...(with) $40,000."

Despite the upfront costs, Bullard said, he supports the County's continued participation. "Rock the South has a significant economic impact for the county, and the state overall," he said.

Regarding emergency services, Bullard stated, "I am not aware of delayed response times; howev-er, we would be willing to sit down with the sheriff and the Rock the South leadership to discuss this or a reimbursement model."

Bullard pointed to broad economic benefits, noting, "The festival brings in over 100,000 attendees, and the tourism dollars that brings with it." He explained, "The county commission only receives sales tax, which we allocate to essential services like law enforcement, roads and infrastructure."

While their approaches differ, both City and County officials agree on one thing — Rock the South puts Cullman in the spotlight. "It is good marketing for Cullman County," said Satterfield. Bullard echoed that sentiment, stating the festival offers a way to "showcase Cullman County."

As the festival draws near, both local governments are working to ensure safety and maximize community benefit, each within the bounds of its respective laws and resources.



LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
DAVID VERLAND HACKNEY, * CASE NO.: PC 2025-152
Deceased *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Steve Hackney as Personal Representative of the Estate of David Verland Hackney, deceased, on the 9th day of May, 2025 by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

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

Steve Hackney
Personal Representative/Executor

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

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2025-065

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF EDNA TAYLOR SCHMALE, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Timothy K. Garrett on the 13th day of March, 2025, by the Hon. 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.

Timothy K. Garrett
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
DON B. YOUNG, * CASE NO.: PC2025-096
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary have been granted to CYNTHIA Y. RUGGLES, as the Executor on this 24th day of April, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and 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.

CYNTHIA Y. RUGGLES
Personal Representative

Sara Doty, Attorney at Law, LLC
Attorney for the Estate of Don B. Young
4725 Whitesburg Drive
Suite 202
Huntsville, AL 35802
256-519-9970

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

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four (4) 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
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2025-03

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF STEPHEN MICHAEL SHELTON JR. and JENNIFER RENEE SHELTON TO ADOPT M.G.F.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: MARILYN EARNESTIN GOINS
whose whereabouts and location are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of M.G.F., a minor child born March 15, 2016, to Marilyn Earnestin Goins, was filed on the 24th day of April, 2025, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners Stephen Michael Shelton Jr. and Jennifer Renee Shelton. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 28th day of April, 2025.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

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

2012 GMC Acadia VIN#1GKKRREDXCJ341374

This vehicle will be sold to pay storage and or repair fee at Lucas Auto Repair, 10271 US HWY 31, Hanceville, Alabama, 35077, on June 24, 2025 at 8 A.M.

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2025-018

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF STEPHEN MICHAEL SHELTON JR. and JENNIFER RENEE SHELTON TO ADOPT K.J.F.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: ADAM K. FOWLER,
whose whereabouts and location are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of K.J.F., a minor child born January 31, 2017, to Marilyn Earnestin Goins, was filed on the 24th day of April, 2025, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners Stephen Michael Shelton Jr. and Jennifer Renee Shelton. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 28th day of April, 2025.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2025-013

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF STEPHEN MICHAEL SHELTON JR. and JENNIFER RENEE SHELTON TO ADOPT M.G.F.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: ADAM K. FOWLER,
whose whereabouts and location are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of M.G.F., a minor child born March 15, 2016, to Marilyn Earnestin Goins, was filed on the 24th day of April, 2025, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners Stephen Michael Shelton Jr. and Jennifer Renee Shelton. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 28th day of April, 2025.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARY SUE BANISTER, * CASE NO PC 2024-322
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO PROBATE WILL AND FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY

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

Petition to Probate Will and For Letters Testamentary filed by William Thomas Blankenship, Petitioner, through Attorney Clint L. Maze. A hearing is re-scheduled on this matter for the **12th day of June, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 1st day of May, 2025.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2025-012

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF STEPHEN MICHAEL SHELTON JR. and JENNIFER RENEE SHELTON TO ADOPT K.J.F.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: MARILYN EARNESTIN GOINS
whose whereabouts and location are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of K.J.F., a minor child born March 15, 2016, to Marilyn Earnestin Goins, was filed on the 24th day of April, 2025, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners Stephen Michael Shelton Jr. and Jennifer Renee Shelton. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 28th day of April, 2025.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721 (telephone)

NOTICE

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPLICATION TO VACATE UNNAMED COUNTY ROAD SOUTH OF COUNTY ROAD 1611.

WHEREAS, property owners Bobby Ray Hill, Sherrie Giles Hill, Minyard H. Blair, Jr., Josefina Valencia Hernandez, Eulalio Rodriguez Aburto, and Ashley Graves Bates, desire to vacate a county road within the municipal limits of the Town of Berlin, pursuant to Ala. Code § 23-4-20 (1975);

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ala. Code § 23-4-2 (1975), the Town of Berlin is required to hold a public hearing, prior to taking final action;

WHEREAS, notice of which is required by statute, shall occur once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks;

WHEREAS, a public hearing will take place on Monday, 16th of June 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Berlin Town Hall; 461 County Road 1615, Cullman, Alabama 35058;

WHEREAS, applicants, Bobby Ray Hill, Sherrie Giles Hill, Minyard H. Blair, Jr., Josefina Valencia Hernandez, Eulalio Rodriguez Aburto, and Ashley Graves Bates, are requesting vacation of an unnamed County Road described as follows, to-wit:

The existing unnamed County Road South of County Road 1611 in its entirety, more specifically shown in Exhibit "A" attached hereto;

WHEREAS, an action is requested for an adoption and approval of a Resolution vacating an unnamed County Road South of County Road 1611 in its entirety.

WHEREAS, said notice is posted in accordance with Title 23-4-2, et.seq. Code of Alabama, 1975. All persons who desire shall have an opportunity of being heard in opposition to or in favor of such resolution. This public notice is posted a minimum of Thirty (30) days prior to the date of the public hearing at: Cullman County Courthouse Entrance Bulletin Board and Town of Berlin Bulletin Board

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the provision of the Resolution vacating an unnamed County Road South of County Road 1611 in its entirety, will be considered by the Cullman County Commission at a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, 16th of June 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Berlin Town Hall, 461 County Road 1615, Cullman, Alabama 35058 at 7:00 p.m. at which time and place all persons who desire shall have an opportunity of being heard in opposition to or in favor of such Resolution or any provision thereof.

Dated this the 30th day of April, 2025.

BY: _____
Heath E. Mellerg
Attorney for Town of Berlin
409 1st Avenue, S.W.
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone: (256) 734-0458

LEGALS

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday June 2, 2025, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Rezoning request – 3rd Avenue SE & John H. Cooper Drive SE

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

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

SFTWI

PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221

Obituary Announcements: May 17-19

Nina Faye Smith, 79
Graveside service for Nina Faye Smith, 79, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at Simcoe Methodist Cemetery, Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Ms. Smith passed away May 17, 2025, at her residence. She was born Jan. 31, 1946, to Elmus Leon Smith and Kathleen Sylvia Shrader Smith. She was a good person and well liked. She was a good worker in the Baptist Church and would help anyone who needed help. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Leon Smith. Survivors include her brother, Billy (Teresa) Smith and her sister, Louise Smith; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Hazel Marie Dingler, 72
Memorial service for Hazel Marie Dingler, 72, of Cullman are incomplete at this time and will be announced at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Dingler was born on April 30, 1953, to parents, Joseph Oliver and Lorine Boone Stanford. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She will be greatly missed. Hazel was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 53 years, Jerry Franklin Dingler; son, Jerry Wayne Dingler; brother, James Stanford; grandson, Randy Ray Dingler. Survivors include her son, Timothy Joseph Dingler; daughter, Jennifer Lorine (Paul) Heinl; grandchildren, Justin Wayne Dingler, Shelby Dean, Sebastin Joseph (Shannon) Dingler, Jesse Gene (Katlyne) Golden, Ethan Blake (Breanna) Heinl, Ashton Leigh Heinl, Jacob Matthew Heinl; a host of great- grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Helen McCain Davis, 95
Funeral services for Helen McCain Davis, 95, of Crane Hill, will be at 2 pm, Thursday, May 22, 2025, at Sulphur Spring Baptist Church, with interment in adjoining cemetery, Bro. Paul Cleghorn officiating. The family will receive friends at the church from 1-2 p.m. before the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Davis passed away Sunday, May 18, 2025. She was born Aug. 15, 1929, to parents, Oscar and Lillie Sewell McCain. She was one of 16 siblings. Helen graduated from Cold Springs High School as Valedictorian of her class in 1947. She married Harlon K. Davis in the summer of 1948, and they were married for 63 years. Helen was a homemaker and known in her family as a great cook. She was a member of Sulphur Springs Baptist Church for over 60 years. Mrs. Davis is survived by her children, Randy (Diane) Davis, Joan (Michael) Davis, Blake (Gabriele) Davis; grandchildren, Derrick (Christy) Davis, Stephan (Kellie) Davis, Cynthia (David) Bagwell, Maria-Jade (Kassim) Bearden, Katelyn (David) Graham, Keelan Davis, Ryan Davis, Everett Davis; seven great-grandchildren; two great great-grandchildren; siblings, James Ray (Sheron) McCain, Gynett (Edward) Bueche; sisters-in-law, Betty Davis, Carolyn Davis, Cathy Davis; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

James Bufford Strawbridge, 81
Funeral services for James Bufford Strawbridge, 81, of Bremen will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 21, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Cullman City cemetery. Visitation will be Tuesday, May 20, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Strawbridge was born May 7, 1944, in Cullman, Alabama. He passed away May 16, 2025, at his residence in Bremen, Alabama. Mr. Strawbridge is survived by his wife of 56 years Shirley Boone Strawbridge; children, Edna Hayes (Robert "Buddy"), Jamie Miller (late husband Lewis Miller), Julie Strawbridge, Mitchell Lloyd Strawbridge (Beth), Joe Strawbridge (Mary); grandchildren, Derick Hayes, James Pearson, Robbie Spires, Cody Strawbridge, Cory Strawbridge, Tori Whaley (Miles), Autumn Creek (Kody), Payton Keen (Benji), Zoe Arnold (Jesse), Tess Cook (David), Ashley Childress, Emily Childress, Jarrett Cole, Justin Cole, Demarki Miller, Dameir Sirmans, Edward Hayes, Stephaine White (Al), Beth Allred (Kendall); 25 Great Grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; sister, Gertrude Sellers; brother, Charlie Strawbridge (Nell); and a host of nieces and nephews. Mr. Strawbridge was preceded in death by his father, Elbert Strawbridge; mother, Earlie Mae Hutchins Strawbridge; sisters, Vedmar Poodry (Richard), Vida Mae Duke (Gay), Stella Pearl Curvin (J.R.), Ardie LeCompt (Curly); brother, Mitchell Strawbridge (Kathy); great grandson, William Hayes; and several nieces and nephews. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Strawbridge family.

Junior O. 'Arb' Murphree, 91
Junior O. "Arb" Murphree, 91, of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away on May 12, 2025, in the home in which he was born, to O.H. and Montez Duskin Murphree, on Aug. 16, 1933. Mr. Murphree is preceded in death by his parents; his beloved wife, Lottie Hatfield Murphree; daughter, Sandra Hartsoe; brothers, Les Murphree, and Dalton Murphree; sister, Inez Young; and granddaughter, Wendy. Those surviving Junior includes his son, Ron Murphree (Lourdes); daughters, Sharon Branham, and Sheila Stanley (David); brother, Larry Murphree; sister, Marlene Bradford (Larry); grandchildren, Shannon, Rob, Brooke, Jacob, Zachary, and Kevin; as well as a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. The Murphree family would like to extend their gratitude to Cindy Battles for her kind and compassionate care of Mr. Murphree. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Murphree family.

Charles William Gorham, 82
Charles William Gorham passed away peacefully on March 29, 2025. He was born in 1943 in Cullman, Alabama to Oscar W. Gorham and Onzelle (Hanvey) Gorham. He graduated from Holly Pond High School in 1961, in 1965 he graduated with honors from St. Bernard College, and in 1968 he graduated from Cumberland School of Law, Samford University. Charlie started legal practice in 1968 in Cullman, Alabama with former State senator, Tom Drake. He later moved his practice to Birmingham and opened an office with Chris H. Doss. His legal career lasted 53 years. He was a member of the Birmingham Bar Foundation, past president of the Birmingham Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) and served on numerous committees for the Alabama and Birmingham Bar Associations. He was also the longest serving city judge in the state of Alabama, serving Warrior, Trafford, and Fultondale. He received numerous awards in his area of law practice. He had a deep love for the law and was trusted by his clients and peers to be honest, fair, and ethical. In 1966, he joined the Alabama National Guard and later moved to the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General Corps. He remained in the Army Reserves as the Staff Judge Advocate for the 121st ARCOM and retired as a Colonel after 25+ years of service. He is predeceased by his mother and father, his brother Wendell Gorham, and both sets of grandparents. He is survived by his loving wife, Martha Gorham, daughter Julie Gorham, Birmingham, Charles Gorham Jr, Washington D.C., nieces Theresa Stewart and Rexanne Prescott, several great nieces and nephews, and numerous friends. A graveside service with military honors was held at the Holly Pond Cemetery on April 2, 2025. Any donations in his memory can be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of Central Alabama (alzca.org), Collatt Jewish Family Services (cjfsbham.org), South Highland Presbyterian Church (adult center), or the charity of your choice.

Lindsey Allen Self, 83
Funeral service for Lindsey Allen Self, 83, of Hanceville, will be at 11 a.m., Friday, May 23, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Prospect Church of Christ Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday evening from 5:30-8 p.m. at the funeral home. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Self was born on May 1, 1941, to parents, Reubin Ottis and Bertha Triptau Self. He was a member of South Cullman Church of Christ. Mr. Self was a poultry farmer and loved hunting and fishing. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers and sisters. Survivors include his wife, Faynelle Self; son, Kevin (Tina) Self; daughter, Robyn (Joey) Overton; grandchildren, Dallas (Thomas) Denmark, Travis Self, Jessi (Richard) Cassella, Joshua (Rachel) Overton, Cassie (Jonathan) Speegle; six great-grandchildren with one on the way; and a host of family and friends.

Arthur Lee Smith, 82
Arthur Lee Smith, age 82, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Friday, May 16, 2025. Arthur is survived by daughters, Tresa (George) Mefford; Nanette Smith and LeighAnn (Ronald) DeLuga; grandchildren, Allyssa Mefford, Jacob (Roshan) DeLuga and Eric (Marlene) DeLuga; brother, Stan Smith, and a host of nieces, nephews, other family and friends. Arthur was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years Ann Smith, parents Artice and Rudy Smith, and brother Gerald Smith. A visitation for Arthur will be held Wednesday, May 21, 2025, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home, 1901 2nd Ave North West, Cullman, AL 35055, followed by a celebration of life funeral service from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Edward Earl Chandler Jr., 77
Edward Earl Chandler, Jr., beloved husband, father, grandfather, and brother, passed away peacefully on May 18, 2025, at the age of 77 in Destin, Florid. He lived a prosperous and full life marked by family, friends, faith, hard work, and many entrepreneurial ventures. A service will be held on Thursday, May 22, at 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home and at the graveside afterward at Hopewell Cemetery in Hanceville, Alabama. Born in Cullman, Alabama, on Jan. 11, 1948, Eddie admittedly barely graduated Hanceville High School in 1966 and chose not to pursue higher education. However, he was a very intelligent man who had a keen eye for a solid business deal and a work ethic that was unmatched. The combination of common sense and hard work allowed him many opportunities and much success, as well as enough stories to fill a book. He loved to talk, laugh, and share stories with old and new friends. Eddie married his high school sweetheart, Sharron Ann Anderson in 1969 and worked as a coal miner, farmer, and restauranteur before moving his family to Charleston, South Carolina, in 1989 to assist in cleanup efforts for the victims of Hurricane Hugo. While in Charleston, Eddie began a general contracting career constructing golf courses, sports complexes, and major site work for commercial shopping centers. Most notably, Eddie was a contractor for the Ocean Course at Kiawah Island, which was home to the 1991 Ryder Cup. He went on to build many well-known courses across the southeast, eventually settling in Destin, Florida, where he expanded his entrepreneurial ventures to include real estate and land development, sod farming, renewable energy, and various other projects. In his "retirement," Eddie went back to his farming and family roots while owning over 1,000 head of cattle in Cullman County, Alabama, and dividing his time between his beloved farm and his home in Destin, Florida. Eddie was a humble philanthropist with a soft heart for those less fortunate. He quietly supported various charities, churches, and families in need, often helping children, single moms, or individuals who had found themselves in tough situations. Eddie loved to work hard, but he also loved to play hard. He had an appreciation for all things vintage and had a large collection of classic and hot rod cars. He particularly enjoyed listening and dancing to oldies, doo-wop, and beach music and entertaining friends on the dance floor while shagging to the tunes of Craig Woolard and the Embers. One of Eddie's greatest joys was his family and being a proud dad to daughters Lori and Amy, and a grandfather and "Duke" to his four grandchildren. He especially enjoyed traveling with Sharron and their grandchildren in his motorhome to theme parks and watching countless school productions and sporting events. Spending time with his grandchildren was one of the highlights of his life. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Sharron Chandler; his daughters, Lori Plourd (Steve) and Amy Simpson (Brad); his grandchildren, Chandler Plourd (Hannah), Eryk Plourd, Lillian "Lolly" Simpson, and Owen Simpson; his brothers, Anthony (Beth) and Jon; his sisters, Amanda Riley (Mike) and Robin Clauson (Greg), as well as cousins, nieces and nephews, and many dear friends. Eddie was preceded in death by his father, Edward Earl Chandler, Sr.; his mother, Lillian Cobb Chandler; and his cherished dog, Maggie. His family would like to sincerely thank Melina Reese, Debbie Christianson, and Esteban Martinez for all their help and special care of Eddie. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Fund of the American Brain Foundation online at https://give.americanbrainfoundation.org/campaign/ 683065/donate. Please direct the gift to the LBD Fund and indicate this is a memorial gift in honor of Eddie Chandler. To mail a check, please send to: American Brain Foundation 201 Chicago Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55415 In the memo of the check, please note this is a memorial gift in support of the LBD research in memory of Eddie Chandler. Memorial gifts may also be made to support Parkinson's Disease and Lewy Body Research at UAB. For online memorial gifts, please use the following link: https://go.uab.edu/ eddiechandlermemorial. Checks can addressed to the UAB Department of Neurology with Eddie Chandler Memorial in the memo and mailed to: UAB Gift Records AB 1230 1720 2nd Avenue South Birmingham, AL, 35294. If you have any questions about UAB gifts, please contact Morgan Quarles at nmrobinson@uabmc.edu or 205-934-9302.

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Jones Chapel VFD compiling list of private storm shelters

Lauren Estes
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JONES CHAPEL, Ala. — Jones Chapel Volunteer Fire Department Chief Clint Thrasher said since there is not currently a list of privately owned storm shelters for the area that he is aware of — the department thought creating such a list would benefit the community.

"Since the tornados in 2011, it's becoming more common for people to add tornado shelters to their homes, whether it be a traditional concrete storm pit in the yard, a steel safe room bolted to the floor of the garage, a concrete poured safe room in a new construction house or a under the slab shelter in a garage," Thrasher said.

"We are always striving on ways to better serve our community. Recently, discussions among members resulted in this idea. We currently use an app on our phone called ActiveAlert (formerly Active911). We use this to receive calls for service mainly, but also can see details about specific things at a commercial property such as building plans, hazards, key holder info, etc."

Thrasher said they have fire hydrants marked, and they're also labeled with the amount of water flow for each.

"We have specific things marked on certain houses such as key box info, or emergency access through electric gates, etc.," Thrasher said.

"After discussion, we decided we could ask members of our community if they were interested in notifying us if they have a shelter, specifically where it's located on their property and how many people might be in it."

Thrasher said that hopefully, they will never need this information, but if there were a natural disaster in the community it would provide better focus for their search.

"We see concrete shelters out in the yards, but if someone has a below grade in the garage or a safe room in their basement, we might not initially see it while dealing with a disaster," Thrasher said. "Of course, this is 100% voluntary."

Thrasher said if you are a member of the community and are willing to, send them your address, type of shelter (safe room, concrete outdoor bunker, under the slab/in the garage, etc.), the location of the shelter, the number of residents in the household and the rated capacity of your shelter.

"Also be sure to include any important medical information such as oxygen or anything that's time sensitive," Thrasher said. "We are building a registry of privately owned shelters in our community to expedite our searches in case of a natural disaster."

Info can be sent via the department's Facebook page, by email to Joneschapelfire@gmail.com or by texting 256-747-3654.

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