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Conservative Christian Family Values

VOTE JULY 15
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Edith Marie 'Deedie' Marcum, Betty Jo McDonald, Rusty Lynn Perkins, William Ronald Parker, Betty Guthery Shikle, Barbara Joan James, James Austin Wesson, Stacy A. Thomas

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WEATHER

90 70

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

SUNNY

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ZACH BLAND/AU ATHLETICS

– SPORTS –

No. 4 Auburn sweeps Regional, blasting NC State 11-1 to host first Super Regional

» PAGE 4

DA: Colony stabbing was 'justifiable homicide'

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

COLONY, Ala. — A local man died as a result of a stabbing in the Colony community on Sunday, June 1. On Monday, June 2, Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker said he determined it was a justifiable homicide under Alabama's Stand Your Ground Law.

Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick identified the victim as Matthew Hall, 27, of Hanceville.

According to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, deputies responded to the incident at approximately 5 p.m. Sunday, June 1. Upon arrival, the CCSO said, deputies secured the scene and provided assistance to the victim, who was transported to an area hospital for treatment. Kilpatrick said Hall died at the hospital.

The person who stabbed Hall has not been officially identified. The person was initially detained, but was not arrested.

Crocker said Monday, "After speaking with Cullman County Sheriff's Office investigators and reviewing the evidence surrounding the death of Matthew R. Hall, aka OSO Clutch, I have determined this was a justifiable homicide under Alabama's Stand Your Ground Law.

"A Protection for Abuse (PFA) order was entered on May 23, 2025, against Mr. Hall based on Hall's ongoing harassment and threatening actions against the homeowner where this incident occurred.

"Mr. Hall was the initial aggressor. As unfortunate as this situation is for Mr. Hall, his family and friends, not every homicide is a murder. Alabama law allows individuals to justifiably use deadly force if they rea-

» PAGE 3

– ALL-STATE BASEBALL –

Vinemont's Cornelius named 3A Coach of the Year

Local standouts earn All-State honors



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Cooper Loftin, Vinemont Head Coach Hunter Cornelius and Addison's Jed Wilkins.

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — The Alabama Sports Writers Association released its All-State baseball teams for the 2025 season Saturday morning, and several local standouts collected postseason honors. After leading the Eagles to a 26-12 record, an area title and their first quarterfinals appearance in program history, Vinemont Head Coach Hunter Cornelius has been named the Class 3A Coach of the Year.

In Class 1A, Jed Wilkins earned Hitter of the Year honors after helping lead the Bulldogs to semifinals and earned a first team spot as an outfielder as well. Fellow Bulldog Kiah Lake earned a spot on the 1A first team as a pitcher as well.

In Class 6A, Cullman pitcher Cooper Loftin earned first team All-State honors and in Class 3A, Vinemont's Jake Hale was selected to the first team as a designated hitter.

Eagles infielder Owen McKinney and Vinemont outfielder Kayden Henderson both earned second team honors in Class 3A as well and Addison's Stone Talley landed on the second team in Class 1A as an infielder.

Mike Dean named Cullman City Schools athletic director



FACEBOOK/MIKE DEAN

Mike Dean has been named Cullman City Schools' athletic director.

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Good Samaritan announces construction project out for bids



JOLANDA HUTSON

Artist's concept of the new Good Samaritan Health Clinic location coming in 2025

» PAGE 2

LIST: The ultimate Cullman VBS summer roadmap

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Cullman City Schools working to double number of pre-school students

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Renovation Church welcomes new Senior Pastor Ryan Wilburn

» PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported June 2

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported June 2, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

May 29

- possession of marijuana; Main St. NE Hanceville
- domestic violence; CR 992
- criminal mischief; trespassing; US. 31
- criminal mischief; unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; CR 601
- assault; CR 1055
- domestic violence; attempt to elude law enforcement officer; CR 1055
- harassment; CR 933

May 30

- burglary; US. 31
- unlawful possession of controlled substance; Main St. SE Hanceville
- trespassing; CR 260
- harassing communications; Beech Grove Rd.
- reckless driving; CR 940
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 992
- unlawful possession of controlled substance; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 601

May 31

- theft of property; CR 1815
- domestic violence; CR 623
- domestic violence; CR 1755
- burglary; mencacing; CR 933
- unlawful possession of controlled substance; CR 747
- trespassing; Hwy. 91
- criminal mischief; CR 222
- unlawful possession of controlled substance; possession of marijuana; Hwy. 69N
- aggravated assault; CR 1428

June 1

- obstructing governmental operations; resisting arrest; disorderly conduct; CR 437
- domestic violence; CR 622
- aggravated assault; Colony Rd.
- menacing; CR 1561
- theft of property; CR 589
- unlawful possession of controlled substance; CR 1763
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 91
- attempt to elude law enforcement officer; reckless endangerment; criminal mischief; CR 933

ARRESTS

May 29 – June 1

Anderson, Jakzon S.; 18
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Bentley, Jonah N.; 35
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Bertoldi, John W.; 25
- DUI (alcohol)

Boone, John T.; 40
- FTA – public intoxication

Bullard, Eric M.; 30
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Denney, Jefferey A.; 36
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-child

Ellis, Clifford J.; 47
- possession of methamphetamine

Farr, Larry D.; 64
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Favela-Valdez, Karen A.; 25
- assault-domestic violence-3rd degree – criminal mischief-3rd degree

Grove, Andrew J.; 28
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Hoskins, Marcus T.; 43
- possession of methamphetamine

Jones Jr., Jimmie D.; 60
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Kennel, Evan J.; 39
- FTA – driving while license suspended

King, Sherman H.; 56
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of drug paraphernalia

Lanz, Matthew A.; 45
- FTA – sell/distribute – methamphetamine
- FTA – improper tag classification
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
- FTA – driving without drivers license
- FTA – failure to register vehicle

Locke, Alexander K.; 34
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Marlin, Kelly E.; 46
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
- FTA – failure to register vehicle

McCombs, Blake H.; 30
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family
- attempting to elude a police officer
- FTA – public intoxication

Moctezuma, Reyna N.; 27
- possession of methamphetamine

Overton, Dustin D.; 28
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- unlawful possession of certain chemical compounds

Paris, Johnie D.; 54
- cruelty to animals

Parks, Shannon A.; 25
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Partlow, Anthony L.; 50
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Powers, Michelle; 49
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)

Raymond, Robert S.; 43
- criminal trespass

Robbins, Anthony W.; 43
- resisting arrest
- obstruction – governmental operations
- disorderly conduct

Sharpton, Destry W.; 31
- assault-aggravated assault-menacing-gun
- assault-reckless endangerment
- attempting to elude a police/law enforcement officer-serious injury or death
- burglary-residence-force
- criminal mischief – damaged property

Smelser, Jessica L.; 43
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Wiley, Emmanuel K.; 27
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Wilhite, Desiree K.; 26
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Woods, Ashley N.; 32
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

May 30

- theft of property-3rd degree; person; cash; $1,026
- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash; $43,749
- theft of property-4th degree; criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $27; Olive St. SW

May 31

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $242; Olive St. SW

June 1

- harassment; person; Pine Cir. SE

ARRESTS

May 30 – June 1

Lopez, Stella L.; 34
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Lopez, Daniel K.; 35
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – public intoxication

Wynn, Gregory P.; 49
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – switched tag
- FTA – driving while revoked
- FTA – insurance violation

Miller, David J.; 42
- FTA – leaving the scene of an accident

Anderson, Jakzon S.; 18
- theft of property-4th degree
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Peterson, Anthony D.; 28
- FTA – speeding
- FTA – improper lane usage

Mathews, Robert R.; 41
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Pierce, Tamra J.; 49
- theft of property-4th degree

Scott II, James A.; 56
- public intoxication

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Dean (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman City Schools has announced the appointment of Coach Mike Dean as its new athletic director.

"Coach Dean, who has served admirably as the interim Athletic Director for the past six months, brings a wealth of athletic experience and dedication to this role," said a media release.

During his tenure as interim athletic director, Dean has successfully cultivated strong relationships with current coaches and booster programs, the release said.

His leadership was instrumental in overseeing key appointments, including the hiring of Trent Walker as the new football coach, Tammy West as women's basketball coach and Drew Bryson as softball coach.

Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff expressed his confidence in Dean, stating, "Just in six months of working with him in the interim role, I have learned firsthand about Mike's proactive approach and his commitment to student athletes.

"He exemplifies dedication, problem-solving skills and a genuine concern for all athletic programs — from cheer and archery to baseball and football."

The release said Dean is known for his collaborative spirit and proactive management style, working closely with Cullman High administration to address challenges and implement effective solutions.

His charismatic leadership has fostered a culture of trust and excellence within the athletic department, focusing on what is best for every student athlete.

Project (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Good Samaritan Health Clinic Executive Director Jolanda Hutson on June 2, 2025, announced that the clinic's new facility project is officially out for general contractor bids.

In an email, Hutson shared, "It is with great excitement that I share a major milestone in our journey — Good Samaritan Health Clinic's new facility project is officially out for general contractor bids!

"If you know of an outstanding contractor who would be a great fit for our project, please encourage them to contact me or our architect, Leonard Design.

"I've attached the Notice to Bid to this email, so feel free to share it with any interested parties.

"The Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for June 12 at the new property — things are moving quickly!"

Hutson also shared in the email that the clinic is within $125,000 of its $2.8 million project goal.

The new facility will be located along Veterans Drive Southwest.

The project is being funded by donations and grants, as well as contributions from both the City of Cullman and Cullman County.

The new health care facility will accommodate an additional 3,600 uninsured individuals each year.

"The new facility will be a 5,040-square-foot building situated on 2.7 acres in the southwest part of the city of Cullman, at 118 Veterans Dr. SW.

"Thoughtfully designed to meet the evolving needs of our community, the building will include four exam rooms, a spacious waiting area that doubles as a meeting space for after-hours patient education classes, a medication dispensary with drive-thru access, a lab and a cardio room," said part of Good Samaritan's latest newsletter.

"This will be a place where everyone feels welcome and cared for.

"At the heart of our mission is a commitment to ensure that all patients are met with compassion and served by some of the most experienced health professionals in the community."

Interested general contractors should email Good Samaritan Executive Director Jolanda Hutson at jhutson@goodsamaritancullman.com for more details.

Can you use Good Samaritan's service?

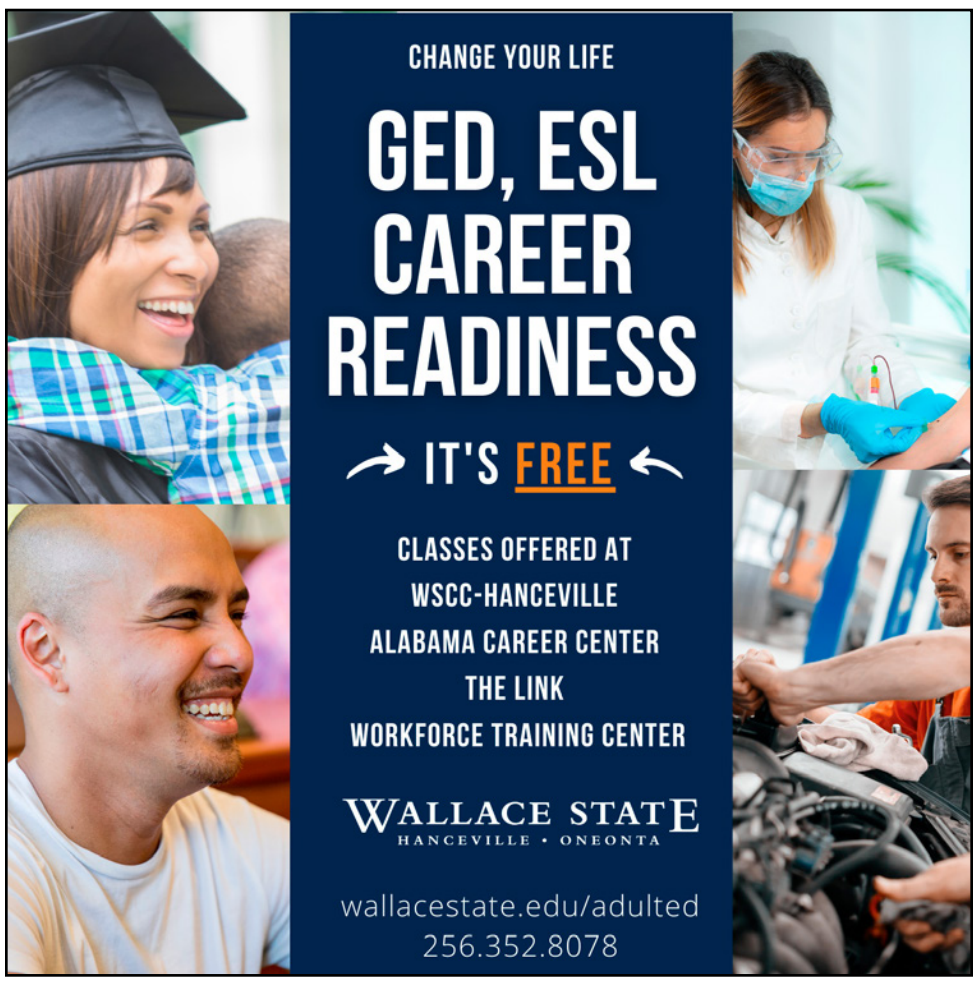
While patients must meet certain criteria to qualify (uninsured residents of Cullman County between 19 and 65 who meet income eligibility), you do not have to live in poverty to qualify.

Eligibility criteria and patient application can be found at www.goodsamaritancullman.com.

If anyone has questions or needs assistance completing the application, call 256-255-5963 for help.

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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 Repair
New session begins June 1, at 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church located at 615 Third Ave. SE, Cullman, AL 35055. 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
• Wednesday, June 4 - 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, June 6 - Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Saturday. June 7 - 8 a.m. Men's breakfast, 11 a.m. Foundry Farm outreach
• Sunday, June 8 - 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.

Church Yard Sale
Friday, June 6, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and Saturday, June 7, 8 a.m.-noon at Mt. Zion Church, U.S. Highway 31 North (next to the Cullman Area Technology Academy in Vinemont). Benefits the Mt. Zion Church Women's Group and the food bank.

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.

Rock the South
Thursday-Saturday, June 19-21 at York Farms, 1872 County Road 469, Cullman. Headliners include Hank Williams Jr., Kid Rock and Nickelback. Get tickets and more info at www.rockthesouth.com.

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 everyone and having a great time.

Stabbing (from Front)

sonably fear for their safety or the safety of others. That is what the evidence suggests in this case.

"This case will be presented to a grand jury in the near future for review, as is standard in homicide cases."

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry expressed gratitude for the rapid response of law enforcement, emergency medical personnel and other first responders involved in handling the situation.

"We appreciate the dedication of our team and the support of the community as we work to ensure justice is served," Gentry said.

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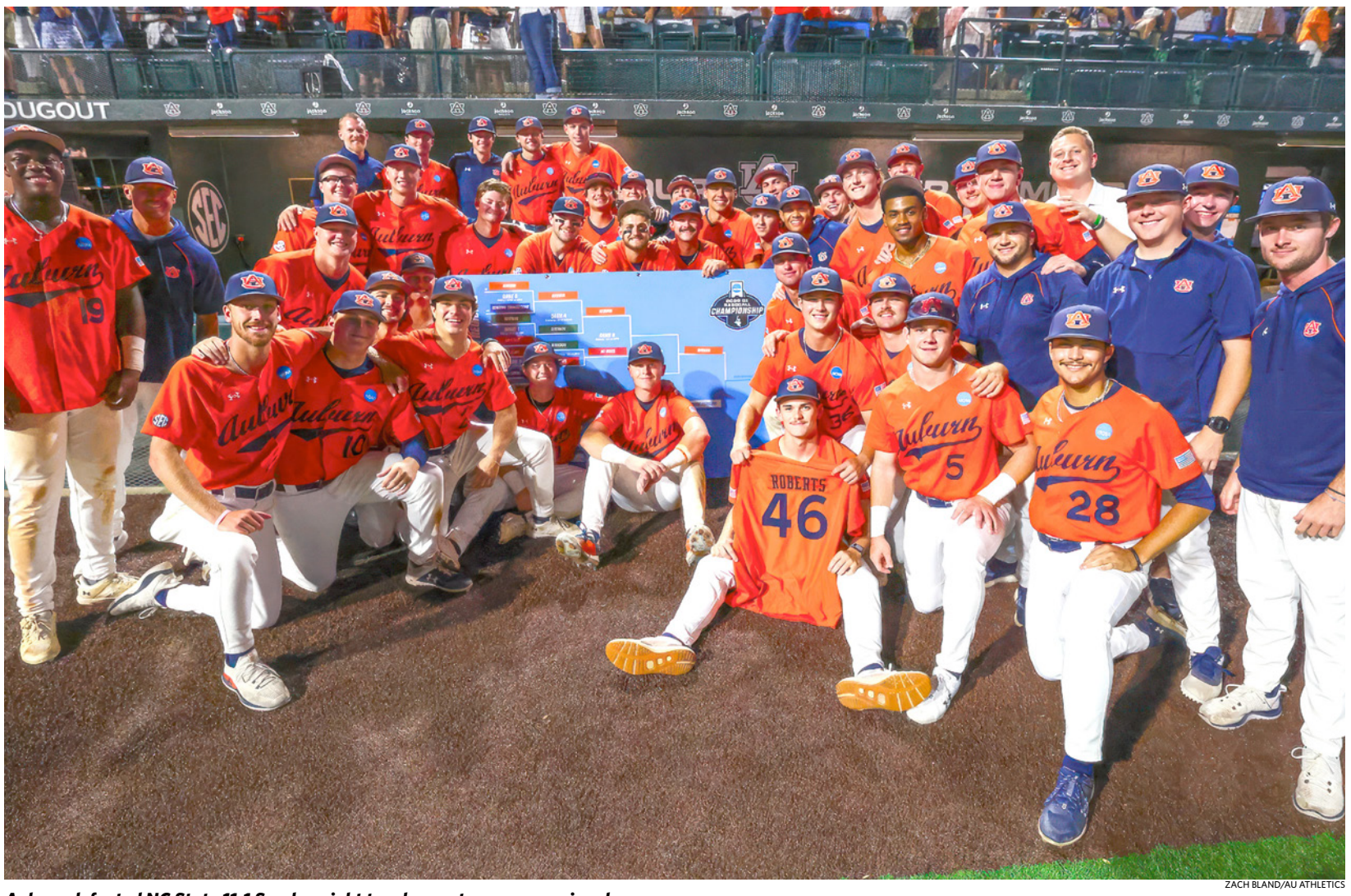
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 3, 2025

No. 4 Auburn sweeps Regional, blasting NC State 11-1 to host first Super Regional

Jeff Shearer
AU Athletics



ZACH BLAND/AU ATHLETICS

Auburn defeated NC State 11-1 Sunday night to advance to a super regional.

AUBURN, Ala. – No. 4 Auburn will remain on the Plains, hosting a super regional for the first time in program history after sweeping the NCAA Auburn Regional by blasting NC State 11-1 Sunday at Plainsman Park.

"Thankful for being able to get through this tough regional," Auburn coach Butch Thompson said. "That was a grind for us. Never hosted a super regional before. Pretty excited about that. They fought hard, they were connected. They played a pretty solid three days for us."

After three scoreless innings, Auburn broke open the game with seven runs in the top of fourth, loading the bases with no outs on a single and a pair of walks to chase NC State starter Dominic Fritton after 88 pitches.

Chase Fralick greeted reliever Cooper Consiglio with a single to right, scoring Lucas Steele for a 1-0 Auburn lead.

One batter later, Chris Rembert slashed his third hit of the game, a single to right that brought home Eric Snow and Cade Belyeu to put the Tigers on top 3-0.

Tournament MVP Bub Terrell continued his torrid regional with a single to right that plated Fralick to make it 4-0.

"We've got one goal in mind," said Terrell, who was 4-for-5 with two runs scored and two RBI. "I'll probably think about it after the season's over, but the job's not finished."

Ike Irish followed with a massive three-run home run that traveled 420 feet, sailing over the temporary seats installed beyond the visitors' bullpen in right field to accommodate the largest three-game series crowd in program history, 22,174, including 7,373 on Sunday night.

"He hung it and I did my job. I put a barrel on it and it happened to get up," said Irish, who expressed appreciation for the atmosphere Auburn fans created during the regional. "It was unbelievable. It's truly amazing what this program is. It's a testament to our family here at Auburn, the fans and the city. Auburn-Opelika, they got behind us this weekend."

The visiting team for the second straight night, the Tigers tacked on three more in the top of the fifth thanks to back-to-back doubles by the fabulous freshman duo of Rembert and Terrell. Rembert's fourth hit scored Fralick and Deric Fabian, then Terrell brought home Rembert to give the Tigers a 10-0 lead.

Auburn (41-18) added a run in the eighth on four consecutive walks to lead 11-0.

Auburn's first three hitters – Rembert, Terrell and Irish – combined for 11 hits in 16 at-bats with nine RBI and five runs scored.

"It helps when you have two unbelievable freshmen hitting in front of you," Irish said.

Starting pitcher Andreas Alvarez (3-1) delivered the best outing of his freshman season, shutting out the Wolfpack for five innings while striking out five and scattering six hits to earn the victory.

"It was special to get that start, especially with all the fans out there, they made it a great night for us," Alvarez said. "I had the slider working really well tonight."

Cade Fisher relieved Alvarez after the first two batters reached in the bottom of the sixth, striking out the first hitter he faced and stranding both runners.

Fisher pitched the final four innings, allowing one run and striking out five to earn his second save.

"I was happy with our pitching," Thompson said. "Alvarez has a ton of confidence. He's got some energy in his fastball.

"He had his best game for us and it comes in postseason. To throw seven guys in a regional is pretty good. I tip my cap to those guys. Our offense was consistent for three days."

NC State (35-21) avoided a shutout by scoring a run in the eighth on a sacrifice fly.

Auburn never trailed in the regional, outscoring Central Connecticut State, Stetson and NC State 28-11 to sweep its way to the first super regional in Plainsman Park next weekend when the Tigers host Coastal Carolina with dates and times expected to be announced on Monday.

"It's going to be electric," Irish said. "I think the fanbase is going to get behind us again."

"We're down to one team that's in our way of going back to Omaha," said Thompson, whose fourth regional title is the most in program history. "We'll play the hottest team in college baseball. We've got to keep our head down and keep fighting for that consistency."

No. 2 seed Alabama falls 6-5 to No. 1 seed Southern Miss in elimination game

Nick Cicere
UA Athletics



UA ATHLETICS

Alabama fell to Southern Miss 6-5 in an elimination game on Saturday.

HATTIESBURG, Miss. — With the bases loaded, two outs and trailing by a run in the final frame, No. 2 seed Alabama baseball was unable to produce in the clutch as the Crimson Tide were defeated 6-5 by top-seed Southern Miss at Pete Taylor Park on Saturday. The loss ends the Tide's 2025 campaign, with Alabama closing the spring with a 41-18 record.

Bryce Fowler put together a big day at the plate, finishing 3-for-5 with a home run and two RBI, as his two-run homer broke a 3-3 tie in the seventh.

Will Hodo was 1-for-2, including a two-run home run, a walk, and a hit-by-pitch. Will Plattner connected on a solo home run in the third to plate the first run of the afternoon.

Richie Bonomolo Jr. managed a double in his four at-bats, while Justin Lebron, Kade Snell, and Brady Neal earned one hit apiece.

Tyler Fay was tasked with his eighth start of season on Saturday, delivering a quality effort for his dugout.

The redshirt sophomore allowed just three earned runs over 6.0 innings while surrendering just six hits and one walk to go with three strikeouts.

Braylon Myers managed a scoreless seventh, though he allowed a leadoff solo homer in the eighth, cutting the Alabama lead to just a run.

Carson Ozmer (4-2) entered the game following the home run, though the Tide closer hit the first man he faced before issuing a walk.

A fielder's choice and a groundout led to an intentional walk, loading the bases with two outs. Southern Miss was able to produce a two-run single, relinquishing the Tide's advantage. Alabama didn't go down without a fight, loading the bases with two outs, though a fielder's choice eventually ended the contest.

From Head Coach Rob Vaughn

"These journeys are fun. Every year has its ups and downs, every year you have a different group, different mentality, different culture, and I have a lot of kids hurting out there right now because it meant a lot to them.

"They poured their heart and soul into Alabama baseball. There's a lot of kids that laid the foundation for what Alabama baseball is going to be.

"These journeys are always so hard then they end because you love these kids.

"What I am most proud of is the men that they are and who they are as people. What we did this year, as good as it was, wasn't good enough, and we are going to be better.

"But at the end of the day, I've got a group of guys that are going to be unbelievable husbands one day and unbelievable dads one day, and at the end of the day that's what our job is all about, is helping young people grow.

"It's been a really fun ride with them, I love them, and we'll be back."

How it happened

- T3 | Will Plattner lifted a one-out solo home run to open the scoring. (1-0, Alabama)
- B3 | Southern Miss responded with a two-run home run. (2-1, Southern Miss)
- T4 | Kade Snell drew a one-out walk, and two batters later, Will Hodo slugged a two-run home run to left. (3-2, Alabama)
- B4 | The Golden Eagles countered with a solo home run. (3-3)
- T7 | Brady Neal lined a two-out single to right, leading to Bryce Fowler's two-run home run to center. (5-3, Alabama)
- B8 | USM opened the inning with a solo home run before a two-out, two-run single gave the hosts the late lead. (6-5, Southern Miss)

Postgame notes

- Alabama finishes the 2025 season with 41 wins, its most victories in a season since the Tide managed 43 wins in 2023
- Tyler Fay matched his career-high with 6.0 innings pitched on Saturday, marking the second consecutive start he totaled 6.0 innings
- Fay ended the season with a 3.00 ERA (12.0 IP/4 ER) over his final two starts
- Will Plattner collected his first career home run to give Alabama its first run of the day
- Will Hodo slugged his 15th home run of the campaign on Saturday
- Saturday marked the eighth game this season Alabama produced three-plus home runs
- Bryce Fowler produced three hits for the sixth time this season, and the first occasion since May 4 at Vanderbilt
- Fowler also extended his on-base streak to 12 games
- Kade Snell ended 2025 having reached base in 53 of his 57 games
- Richie Bonomolo Jr. also reached base in 53 of 58 games



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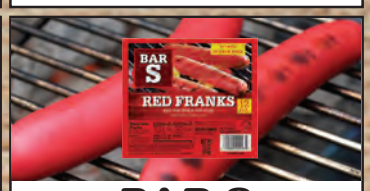
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2 for $5



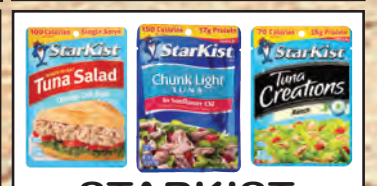
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12 Oz. Hawaiian
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Cans or Bottles
$22.49 EA.

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Original or Hickory Pit
Deli Sliced
$6.99 LB.

LEONARD CELEBRATION CAKE
or Carrot Cake
28 Oz.
$13.59 EA.

FAITH

Renovation Church welcomes new Senior Pastor Ryan Wilburn

Staff Reports
Contributor

VINEMONT, Ala. — Renovation Church said it is excited to announce Ryan Wilburn as its new senior pastor.

"Pastor Ryan, along with his fiancée Brittany Cole, began their ministry at Renovation in May and have quickly become a welcoming presence in the community," said a media release from the church.

With over a decade of experience as an evangelist, singer and musician with the Heartfelt Trio gospel group, and as a youth pastor, Wilburn brings a wealth of ministry experience and a deep passion for outreach, said the release.

His dynamic preaching, leadership style and commitment to both spiritual growth and community connection are already making a positive impact at Renovation Church.

"Renovation Church members have stated that they are thrilled to have Pastor Ryan and Brittany with them. His energy, vision and love for people are truly inspiring, and we're excited about the future of our church under his leadership."

Renovation Church, located at 14142 Alabama Highway 157 in Vinemont, offers a variety of programs for all ages. Services are held every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., with Monday night prayer at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday Bible study at 6:30 p.m. "There is a place for everyone and an abundance of activities for all members of your family."

Pastor Ryan invites everyone to come out and be a part of the church's growing ministry.

For more information, visit www.renovationchurch.tithelysetup8.com.



CONTRIBUTED

Ryan Wilburn and Brittany Cole

Rainer: Rosen's cobia dish takes Alabama Seafood Cook-Off crown

David Rainer
Ala. Dept. of Conservation and Nat. Resources

In its first year under the Sweet Grown Alabama banner, the Alabama Seafood Cook-Off recently continued its legacy of highlighting Alabama-grown products, especially Alabama Gulf Seafood, with delicious, innovative seafood preparations.

With four teams competing for the prestigious win at The Wharf in Orange Beach, Chef Ben Rosen and Sous Chef Walker Hughes of Auburn's The Depot garnered the crown with their "Alabama Summer" dish of marinated, pecan-grilled cobia, sweet corn with Bill-E's bacon, risotto fried green tomato, cobia confit lump blue crab rillette, charred peach and blistered okra relish, and black lemon herb butter.

"It feels amazing," said Rosen, who was sous chef with Hughes at last year's competition. "Being able to be selected, being able to plan it, and then coming in and winning this thing is just a fantastic feat for me, because I've only been with (Executive Chef) Scott Simpson at The Depot for a year-and-a-half. I started out as lead grill cook and then lead sauté cook. Last year, right after this competition, he promoted me to demi chef de partie. Then in October, I became chef de partie. So, it's been a whirlwind for me, and the last year has just been fantastic."

Rosen, who advances to the Great American Seafood Cook-Off in New Orleans later this summer, said his use of cobia, a pelagic fish that is on the rebound after numerous years of decline, may have made the difference.

"I don't really know what sealed the deal, but it may have been the utilization of the cobia belly," he said. "Cobia is a very underutilized fish as well. I know that's why Chef Emilio (Urban) chose it. Snapper is very well-known and very versatile. I thought about doing something with snapper, and then I was going with wahoo, but I changed it to cobia at the last minute.

"For thick fillets like cobia, wahoo or mahi, really the key is to not overcook it."

Rosen said he marinated the cobia belly in parsley, cilantro, cumin, smoked paprika, olive oil, lemon juice and lemon zest. The relish was made with grilled peach and blistered okra, two different varieties of fresh okra, and pickled okra. The risotto had arboreal rice, Alabama sweet corn and Bill-E's bacon of Fairhope. Rosen said he used a simple cream butter sauce with herbs as well as cuttlefish ink to make it black.

"With the fried green tomatoes, it's my own recipe with a little bit of corn meal, masa flour, Cajun seasoning, salt and pepper," he said. "They're put in buttermilk to loosen the tendons to make it more tender. Then they're dredged in the dry mixture before frying."

Rosen thought the crowning touch was the cobia confit with lump blue crab.

"The cobia belly is confited (slow cooked in oil or fat)," he said. "The lump crab meat is mixed in with a little bit of cream cheese, a little bit of lemon preserve and just a hint of salt to help bring out that flavoring of the lemon."

Rosen said he was happy with his presentation but also knew the competition was extremely tough.

As Rosen said, Emilio Urban of Coastal Restaurant in Orange Beach also used cobia, also known as ling or lemonfish. Urban's dish was spiced cobia, savory blue crab Basque cheesecake, burnt honey bacon brittle, watermelon pearls, lemon drop pepper beurre blanc and fresh herbs.

Chef Austin Salinas of Hatch Restaurant in Huntsville prepared poached red snapper, ginger kohlrabi slaw, shiso-wrapped sushi rice and garden pesto.

Chef Megan Vanderford of Odette from Florence served seared flounder with pork and crawfish rice dressing, Kodachrome (Gardens) salsa verde and charred broccolini.

Entries were judged based in numerous categories – Presentation, General Impression and Serving Methods; Creativity and Practicality; Composition and Harmony of Ingredients; Correct Preparation and Craftsmanship; and Flavor, Taste and Texture.

The Alabama Seafood Cook-Off was previously held under the direction of the Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission and was transferred to Sweet Grown Alabama, an offshoot of the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries.

Agriculture Commissioner Rick Pate said shifting the promotion of Alabama wild seafood to Sweet Grown Alabama was a no-brainer.

"We were really one of the last states to realize how much people wanted to buy local," Commissioner Pate said. "It's so important that we picked that up. This is a natural evolution for us to promote seafood. We have a lot of protein with Sweet Grown, a lot of freezer meats and pork grown in Alabama, more than you would think. So, yeah, it was a good fit to bring seafood in."

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) Commissioner Chris Blankenship said the Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission had been operating for almost 13 years under ADCNR guidance with funds derived from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlement.

"The Commission kind of got to the end in looking at where we were with our funding and what was best long-term," Commissioner Blankenship said. "It just made sense to me with what they had going on with Sweet Grown Alabama and how they were already promoting Alabama produce, fruits, farm products and other proteins that we should fold seafood into that as well and do it all as one big program. I called Commissioner Pate and talked to the board at Sweet Grown, and they were receptive to that idea.

"All the seafood marketing is transitioning to Sweet Grown, and I think it's going to be great. They have a great program now. They got a little funding through the Legislature, and we hope to help them get some longer-term funding to blend in the seafood with what they're doing. It's really good for Alabama farmers and fishermen to do it all together."

Commissioner Blankenship said the Alabama Seafood Cook-Off obviously focuses on seafood, but it's far more than that.

"We had great quality chefs again, and they took fresh Alabama seafood and made delicious dishes with it," he said.

"But, like they've done from the very beginning, they pair that with good Alabama produce. It really marries all those Alabama products into a great dish. I was so glad to see these chefs taking all that good Alabama product and putting it into a dish that is not only delicious, but also promotes all of the industries in Alabama."



DAVID RAINER

Flames from pecan wood lick the cobia belly as The Depot's Chef Ben Rosen prepares the winning dish at the Alabama Seafood Cook-Off.

Chef Jim Smith of Hummingbird Way restaurant in Mobile served as chair of the Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission for most of its existence, and he's glad to see Sweet Grown Alabama step up to continue promoting Alabama seafood.

"It's been a very seamless transition," Smith said. "I'm happy that all the time and effort that went into making the Seafood Commission successful is now finding a place to live on in a larger Alabama marketing scheme."

Smith also served as preliminary judge to help select the four finalists by evaluating all the recipes.

"It's really a good system," he said. "It's entirely blind. I evaluate them by checking if they are good in a competition setting, if they're Alabama ingredients, if they tell a story about Alabama. This group this year has been excellent with creative recipes as well as awesome utilization of Alabama products, and I'm proud to see Sweet Grown Alabama has seen the value in this great celebration of Alabama seafood."

Ellie Watson, Director of Sweet Grown Alabama, added, "This event is more than just a cook-off; it's a celebration of our state's incredible culinary talent and our thriving seafood industry. We're proud to connect local chefs with Alabama farmers and fishermen to showcase just how special our homegrown ingredients truly are. The energy and excitement this year were unmatched, it's a testament to the strength of our local food community."



Roadmap (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Looking for a place for your kids to participate in a local Vacation Bible School this summer? Look no further! The Cullman Tribune has you covered. Below you will find a list of VBS dates from churches all over Cullman and surrounding areas. The list is sorted by date for ease of use. If your church is not listed and you would like for it to be, contact The Cullman Tribune via Facebook or email and we will get it added for future updates.

Additionally, a list has been provided by the West Cullman Baptist Association and can be found at the end.

JUNE VBS DATES

Northbrook Baptist Church
- When: June 1-4, from 6–8 p.m.
- Where: 3691 Alabama Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35058
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things
- Info: For 4-year-olds to fourth graders. A free dinner will be served every night starting at 5:30. All abilities welcome; we would love to have you! June 4 is Family Night at Sportsworld Skate Center! Bring the whole family for dinner at 5:30 and a fun night of skating!

Duck River Baptist Church
- When: June 1-4, from 5:30-8 p.m.
- Where: 1027 County Road 775, Cullman, AL 35055
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

Mt. Zion Baptist Church - Welti
- When: June 1-4, from 5:30-8 p.m.
- Where: 5041 County Road 703, Cullman, AL 35055
- Theme: Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory
- Info: Classes are from ages 3 to 18. Dinner will be provided. Parent night is Wednesday, June 4.

Concord Baptist Church
- When: June 2-5, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 8158 Alabama Highway 69 N, Cullman, AL 35058
- Theme: Egypt

Daniels Chapel Baptist Church
- When: June 2-6, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 780 Daniels Chapel Road, Eva, AL 35621
- Theme: True North

Jones Chapel First Baptist
- When: June 2-6, from 6-8 p.m.
- Where: 235 County Road 1114, Cullman, AL 35057
- Theme: Timeless
- Info: Kickoff is Sunday, June 1 at 4:30 p.m. There will be food and fun, including blow-ups for the kids.

Mountain View Missionary Baptist Church
- When: June 2-6, from 6-8 p.m.
- Where: 1890 County Road 438, Cullman, AL 35057
- Theme: Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory
- Info: Parents night is the Friday, June 6.

Sardis Baptist Church
- When: June 8-11, from 5:30-8 p.m.
- Where: 3789 Sardis Airport Road, Addison, AL 35540
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things
- Info: Classes are for children ages 2 through sixth grade. Meals will be provided each night. A VBS kickoff will take place on June 7, at 2 p.m.

Center Grove Baptist Church
- When: June 8-11, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 4607 County Road 1545, Cullman, AL 35058
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

Antioch Baptist Church
- When: June 8-11, from 6-8:15 p.m.
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

First Baptist Church Holly Pond
- When: June 8-11, from 5:30-8 p.m.
- Where: 10751 U.S. Highway 278 E, Holly Pond, AL
- Theme: Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory

Redan Missionary Baptist Church
- When: June 9-13, from 6-8 p.m.
- Where: 1080 County Road 1728, Holly Pond, AL 35083
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

West Side Baptist Eva
- When: June 9-13, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Theme: True North

Brooklyn Missionary Baptist Church
- When: June 9-13, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 468 County Road 1684, Holly Pond, AL 35083
- Theme: Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory

Christ First Ministries
- When: June 9-13, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Where: 1017 Alabama Highway 69 N, Cullman, AL
- Theme: Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory

Lystra Baptist Church
- When: June 15-20, from 6:30-8 p.m.
- Where: 1378 County Road 1592, Baileyton, AL 35019
- Theme: Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory

Walter Baptist Church
- When: June 16-19, from 6-8 p.m.
- Where: 152 County Road 649, Hanceville, AL 35077
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

Hanceville First Baptist Church
- When: June 16-19, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 104 Church Ave. NE, Hanceville, AL 35077
- Theme: True North

Lake Catoma Baptist Church
- When: June 16-20, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 1646 Alabama Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35058
- Theme: SCUBA

Bethlehem West Baptist Church
- When: June 16-20, from 5:30-8 p.m.
- Where: 14310 Alabama Highway 157, Vinemont, AL 35179
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things
- Info: Classes provided for children ages 4 through sixth grade. For more information, contact the church office at 256-739-5858.

Friendship Baptist Church
- When: June 22-25, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 1104 County Road 1435, Cullman, AL 35055
- Theme: Concrete & Cranes – Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples
- Info: Dinner is provided.

East Side Baptist Church
- When: June 22-25, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 1111 Third St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

Redeeming Grace Church
- When: June 22-25, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 7549 County Road 222, Cullman, AL 35057
- Theme: Camp RGC – Live It Out
- Info: Registration is currently open. There will be themed nights. Dinner is provided.

Enon Baptist Church
- When: June 22-25, from 5:30-8 p.m.
- Where: 8001 County Road 1435, Vinemont, AL
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

Corinth West FCM Church
- When: June 22-26, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 5130 County Road 1101, Vinemont, AL 35179
- Theme: SCUBA - Dive into a friendship with God! Join us on an amazing undersea adventure where you'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God!

Grace Chapel
- When: June 23-25, from 9 a.m.-noon
- Where: 1635C Main Ave. SW, Cullman, AL 35055
- Theme: Camp VBS
- Info: This is open to children that have completed kindergarten through sixth grade! Sign up your children at the table in the lobby.

South Cullman Church of Christ
- When: June 23-26, starting at 7 p.m.
- Where: 2044 Main Ave. SW, Cullman, AL 35055
- Theme: Lighting the Way – Lessons from the Psalms
- Info: Classes for all ages

Etha Baptist Church
- When: June 23-27, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 8417 County Road 1545, Cullman, AL 35058
- Theme: True North

Springhill Missionary Baptist Church
- When: June 23-27, dinner at 5 p.m., VBS from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 5400 U.S. Highway 278 W, Cullman, AL 35057
- Theme: Road Trip
- Info: Parents night is Friday, June 27. Classes are available from pre-school to adult. Everyone is welcome!

Ebenezer Baptist Church
- When: June 28, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Where: 2245 County Road 1242, Vinemont, AL 35179

Good Hope Baptist Church
- When: June 29-July 2, from 6-8 p.m.
- Where: 90 Good Hope School Road, Cullman, AL 35057

JULY VBS DATES

First United Methodist Church
- When: July 15-18
- Where: 320 Third St SE, Cullman, AL 35055

Center Hill Baptist Church
- When: July 6-10, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 13108 County Road 747, Hanceville, AL 35077
- Theme: Narnia

Smith Lake Baptist Church
- When: July 7-11, from 9 a.m.-noon
- Where: 18585 County Road 222, Crane Hill, AL
- Theme: Wonder Junction – Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory

First Baptist Church of Fairview
- When: July 7-11, from 6-9 p.m.
- Where: 1022 Welcome Road, Cullman, AL 35058
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

Renovation Church
- When: Friday, July 11, from 5:30-8 p.m. – Saturday, July 12, from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Where: 14142 Alabama Highway 157, Vinemont, AL 35179
- Theme: G.L.O.W. – Go Light Our World
- Info: Ages 4-12

Simcoe Baptist Church
- When: July 13-16, from 6-8:30 p.m.
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things

First United Methodist Church Cullman
- When: July 15-18, starting at 5 p.m. daily
- Where: 320 Third St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055
- Theme: True North - Kids will embark on the ultimate Alaskan adventure, where the Northern Lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!

Ryans Creek Baptist Church
- When: July 16-18, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Where: 24849 County Road 222, Bremen, AL 35033
- Theme: Magnified! Discovering the Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things
- Info: Preschool through youth

WEST CULLMAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION LISTING

- White Oak - May 31-June 4, evening
- Crosshaven - June 1-3, 6-8:30 p.m.; Family Night - June 4
- Mt. Hope - June 1-4, 6-8 p.m.
- Cullman First - June 2-6, 9 a.m.-noon (doors open at 8:30 a.m.)
- Jones Chapel - June 2-6, 6-8 p.m.
- Mountain View - June 2-6, 6-8 p.m.
- Liberty - June 8-12, 6-8:30 p.m.
- Mountain Grove - June 8-13, evening
- Seventh Street - June 8-11, 5-8:30 p.m.
- Valley Springs - June 8-12, 5:30-8 p.m.
- West Side - June 8-11, 6-8:30 p.m.
- Fairview West - June 9-13, 5:30-8 p.m.
- West Point - June 9-13, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Garden City - June 10-13, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Bethlehem West - June 16-20, 5:30-8 p.m.
- Calvary - June 16-20, evening
- Mt. Nebo - June 16-20, 6-8:30 p.m.
- New Prospect - June 20th 4-8 p.m., June 21, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Emeus - June 22-25, 6-8:30 p.m.
- Missionary Grove - June 23-27, 6-8:30 p.m.
- Spring Hill - June 23-27, 6-8:30 p.m.
- Ebenezer - June 28, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Macedonia - June 28th, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Family Night – June 29
- Northside - June 28, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Good Hope - June 29-July 2, 6-8 p.m.
- Mt. Pleasant - July 7-10, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Smith Lake - July 7-11, 9 a.m.-noon
- Sulphur Springs - July 12
- Ryans Creek - July 16-18, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Corinth West - July 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (9:30 a.m. registration)
- Sardis - July 21-25



LEGALS

This Advertisement for Bids is provided by: LeonardDesign P.C., 115 Second Ave. N.E., Cullman, Alabama 35055, Telephone No. 256-739-8020

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for GOOD SAMARITAN HEALTH CLINIC PROJECT will be received until 2:00 PM CST June 26, 2025, at the office of Leonard Design PC located at 115 Second Ave NE, Cullman AL 35055.__

Good Samaritan Health Clinic – new wood frame construction of ~ 4,200 SF structure with brick base, cementitious siding and asphalt shingle roof, containing Covered Patient Drop off, Waiting Room, Reception, Cardio Room, Four (4) Patient Exam Rooms, Lab, Nurses Area, Six (6) Office, Break Room, Two (2) ADA Restroom, Staff Restroom, File and Medical Storage, Dispensary, Medication Storage and Drive Thru Area.

A cashier's check or bid bond payable to Good Samaritan Health Clinic in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than $10,000, must accompany the bidder's proposal. Performance and Payment Bonds and evidence of insurance required in the bid documents will be required at the signing of the Contract.

Bid Documents may be obtained from the Architect for a non-refundable fee of $10 per digital copy of the drawings and specifications in PDF format. No partial sets, individual pages, or drawing sheets will be provided. Drawings and specifications may be acquired by contacting the Architect, Leonard Design P.C., 115 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. Any inquiries regarding this project bid may be addressed in writing and mailed to LeonardDesign, PC at address indicated above or emailed to admin@leonarddesign.net.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities, or to reject any or all bids, and to award the contract to the best and most responsible bidder. All bidders must comply with Code of Alabama, Title 39 – Public Works Bid Law and must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, must be certified for the type of work on which the proposal is and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. Each bidder must deposit with his or her bid, security in the amount, a statement identifying the drawings and/or addendums encompassed by the bid amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Instruction to Bidders.

No bidder may withdraw his or her bid within **thirty (30)** days after the opening thereof.

Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at the project site located at 118 Veterans Drive SW, Cullman, Alabama on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. CST. Pre-qualification of Contractor is required for this project. Contractor must submit a completed AIA Form # A305 – Contractor Qualifications questionnaire and attachments to Architect Thursday, June 12, 2025, by the end of business day.

Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Architect or copies thereof. All bidders must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his or her current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owner's judgement, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted. All bidders must submit with his or her bid, a statement identifying the drawings and/or addendums encompassed by the bid amount.

Good Samaritan Health Clinic

(Local Awarding Authority)

Leonard Design P.C.

(Architect)

LEGALS

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CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Zoning Board of Adjustments

On Monday, June 16, 2025, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Zoning Board of Adjustments, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Variance request at 1321 Dripping Springs Road NW for a new duplex

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

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Obituary Announcements: May 31 - June 2

Edith Marie 'Deedie' Marcum, 83
Funeral Service for Edith Marie "Deedie" Marcum, age 83 of Cullman, will be at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 2, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Jerry Wootten, and granddaughters, Lindsay Partain and Katelyn Brown officiating. Mrs. Marcum will lie in state from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday prior to the service. Visitation will be from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 1, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Burial will be at Flint Creek Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Marcum passed away on Thursday, May 29, 2025, at Westminster Assisted Living in Cullman. She was born Dec. 12, 1941, to Henry Schwan and Mary Crutchfield Schwan. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, J. D. Marcum; sisters, Mae Rodgers, Sue Mabry and Jean Scott; brother, Carlton Schwan; stepdaughter, Mona Tarrance. Survivors include her sons, Dave (Misty) Partain and Brent Partain; stepdaughter, Jennifer (Jason) Smith; grandchildren, Lindsay Partain, Trey Partain, Katelyn (Brandon) Brown, Carson Partain, Joshua Watson, Anna (Joshua) Carpenter, Luke Watson and Cailah Campbell; great grandchildren, Isabelle Brown, Jericho Dingler and Isaiah Carpenter. Serving as pallbearers will be Trey Partain, Carson Partain, Brandon Brown, John Partain, Mike Mabry, and Heath Rodgers. The family wishes to express a special thank you to the Staff that became family at Westminster Assisted Living.

Betty Jo McDonald, 59
Betty Jo McDonald, age 59 of Cullman, Alabama passed away May 29, 2025. She was born Sept. 6, 1965, in Cullman County, Alabama. Betty wouldn't miss bingo nights, enjoyed live concerts, and loved spending her time surrounded by friends. Betty was a very kind, loving and caring person. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.0 Betty is preceded in death by her father Luther McDonald. Betty is survived by her mother Beverly Waters, brothers Paul (Martha) McDonald, Brandon McDonald, and Brian (Kristi) McClure, sister April (Billy) Goodwin, boyfriend of 6 years Rex Harris, bonus grandson Braxton Williams, and a host of nieces and nephews The family will receive friends for a visitation Tuesday, June 3, 2025, from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel. A celebration of life funeral service will be held Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 2 p.m. with burial to follow at Bethlehem Methodist Cemetery, 2830 Beech Grove Road, Hanceville, AL. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Rusty Lynn Perkins, 47
Rusty Lynn Perkins, 47, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on May 13, 2025. Born on Jan. 12, 1978, Rusty lived a life rooted in faith, compassion, and a deep love for his family and friends. He was preceded in death by his loving parents, Ronald and Gail Perkins. Rusty is survived by his devoted wife, Mandi Perkins; his brothers, Brian (Jane) Perkins; Reggy (Diane) Perkins; nephews Tyler (Jenny) Perkins, Zachary (Katlin) Perkins, Dalton Moon, and Dallas Moon, great nieces Sofiah, Bellah, and Lily Perkins, and Presley Moon, great nephews Bryson and Luca Perkins, and a host of cousins, and friends who were blessed by his wisdom, warmth, and ever-present encouragement. Rusty's greatest honor in life was sharing the Word of God and living fully for Jesus Christ. His faith was not just something he spoke about—it was the guiding light of his life. Whether ministering to others, offering a helping hand, or simply lending a listening ear, Rusty embodied the love of Christ in all he did. His legacy is one of service, humility, and unwavering devotion to God. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Sunday, June 1, at 3 p.m. at New Beginnings Church in Warrior, Alabama where all who knew and loved Rusty are invited to gather and remember the remarkable man he was. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be made to Alabama Teen Challenge, a ministry close to Rusty's heart. Rusty Lynn Perkins will be remembered as a loving husband, faithful brother, joyful unc, and a humble servant of the Lord. His life was a testament to grace, and his memory will continue to inspire those he leaves behind.

William Ronald Parker, 75
William Ronald Parker, age 75, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 30, 2025. A devoted father, grandfather, brother, and friend, William served proudly in the United States Marine Corps. He will be remembered for his strength, kindness, and unwavering love for his family. William is survived by his sons, Terry and Allen Parker; grandchildren, Megan Parker, Emily Parker, Hunter Parker, Emilee Strout, and Della Gibson; and his brother, Tim Parker. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Lavonda Gail Caple; his son, Kevin Parker; and his parents, William Raymond Parker and Lanora Blanche Mann Parker. A Celebration of Life Graveside Service will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at Bethsaida Baptist Church Cemetery, 1365 County Road 421, Cullman, AL 35057. Services will be officiated by Rev. Andy Coffee and Chaplain Patrick Talbert. William will be laid to rest at Bethsaida Baptist Church Cemetery. To leave condolences or share memories with the Parker family, please visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Betty Guthery Shikle, 84
Funeral service for Betty Guthery Shikle, 84, of Cullman will be at 12 p.m., Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at Mt. Vernon Congregational Methodist Church, 3115 County Road 1069 Vinemont, AL 35179, with interment in adjoining cemetery, Bro. Steton Hayes officiating. The family will receive friends from 10:30 a.m. -12 p.m. before the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Shikle was born on Jan. 23, 1941, to parents, B. and Estelle Parker James. She loved her family and was loved by all who knew her. She enjoyed playing softball and working in her garden and with her flowers. She worked at Fly Manufacturing in Hartselle and Oneita in Cullman. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Calvin Coolidge Guthery; grandson, Jason Taylor; two brothers, Bill and Bobby James; son-in-law Roger Kelsoe Survivors include her son, Kevin Guthery; daughter, Starlet Kelsoe; sister-in-law, Dianne James; grandchildren, Brandon Jarrett, Crystal (Aaron) Speakman, Whitney (Chad) Trammell, Sage (Jasmyne) Guthery; great-grandchildren, Gracie, Carlee, Destiny, Jase, Hunter, Adalynn, Macie, Arleigh, August, and Georgie; and a host family and friends. Pallbearers will be Chad Trammell, Tristan Bennett, Aaron Lindsey, Hunter Trammell, Sage Guthery, and Jase Speakman. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Barbara Joan James, 65
Barbara Joan James, 65, of Cullman passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 1, 2025. She was born Feb. 24, 1960. She was preceded in death by her parents, Lewis and Peggy Miller; her husband, Dennis James and her brother, Lynn Miller. She is survived by her children, Patricia White (Jamie), Jason James, Kevin James (Crystal) and Tamela Auletti (Dustyn); grandchildren, Jenna Schwartz (Andrew), Jacie James, Tyler White, Jaxson White, Raelynn James, and Ellie Auletti; great granddaughter, Lydia Mae Schwartz; sisters, Sue Park (Darwin), Christy Harvell (Dossie) and Laurie Bartlett; a host of much loved nieces, nephews, other family and friends and her special companion of 15 years, Alley Cat James. Funeral services will be Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 1 p.m. at Missionary Grove Baptist Church; burial will follow in the adjoining cemetery. The family will receive friends on Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home directing.

James Austin Wesson, 85
James Austin Wesson, Beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend. James was born in Dora, AL on December 16th, 1939. He passed away on February 16th, 2025, at Ascension St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville, TN with his loving family by his side. James was preceded in death by his parents Bibb Wesson and Inez York Wesson, his sister Judy Elaine Wesson, and his beloved pet cat Pinkie. James is survived by his devoted and loving wife of 65 years Jeanie Seibert Wesson, his daughter Ginger, her husband Joseph Pintaudi, and his son James Wesson, his wife Jennifer Gray. He is also survived by his four grandchildren Alex Haggard (husband Josh), Joey Pintaudi (wife Brittany), Jimmy Pintaudi, and Jonah Wesson, and his three great-grandchildren Jake Haggard, Emma Haggard, and AJ Haggard. James was a businessman and owner of Wesson Poultry Supply in the city of Cullman for 20 years. He was an independent poultry farmer for 25 years in Cullman County. James was a hard worker that put in a tremendous amount of work throughout his entire life to support his family and make their lives as joyful as possible. He loved watching and talking about classic movies. He loved his family his grandchildren and great-grand children and loved spending time with them at Smith Lake and at the beach. He was an Auburn Fan... War Eagle! A memorial service will be held on Sunday, June 8, at 2 p.m. Garden City Cemetery in Garden City, Alabama. If you would like to honor James's life through donation, please donate to the St. Thomas Foundation of Nashville, Tennessee. Or donate to your favorite charitable cause in his name.

Stacy A. Thomas, 85
Mr. Stacy A. Thomas died peacefully on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at the age of 85. Stacy is survived by his wife, Emma, his son, James (Eunice Vivar), and his granddaughters, Ava and Ella Thomas. Stacy is preceded in death by his father, John Kelly Thomas, his mother, Opal Kate Thomas, and many friends, colleagues, former students, and former players in the School District of Palm Beach County. Stacy was born on August 4, 1939, in Athens, Tennessee. He spent his formative years in Cullman, Alabama. He graduated magna cum laude from Saint Bernard College in 1964 with a Bachelor's degree in Education. He married Emma Webb on July 2, 1965. After moving to Palm Beach County and eventually settling in the family home in Jupiter, Stacy taught social studies and coached football at multiple schools in the School District of Palm Beach County. Stacy earned a Master of Education degree from Florida Atlantic University in 1967, became an assistant principal, and found his passion in adult and community education. Over time, Stacy and Emma welcomed their son, James ("Jamie"), and grandchildren Ava and Ella. Later, he was fortunate enough to welcome his daughter-in-law, Eunice, and her daughters, Abbey and Lily, to the family. Stacy's family, and particularly his grandchildren, remember the lessons he taught them about loving what you do, passionately pursuing education, and laughing often. Stacy was an avid and voracious reader who consumed an incredible number of books every year. He was an accomplished poker player who competed in the World Series of Poker multiple times and played locally for decades. Stacy loved the Alabama Crimson Tide, and he and Jamie enjoyed rooting together for the Atlanta Braves for decades. He passionately engaged in education, sports, books, movies, music, politics, and world cultures until late in life, and loved discussing those things daily with family and friends. A Celebration of Life is scheduled from 2 p.m.- 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, at Taylor and Modeen Funeral Home at 250 Center Street, Jupiter, FL 33458, with a reception to follow at Stacy and Emma's home at 928 Marlin Circle, Jupiter, Florida 33458. All are welcome to come together and celebrate Stacy's life. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donating in Stacy's memory to the Stacy Thomas Adult Education Fund. Please make checks payable to: SDPBC-Jupiter High Adult Ed (in the Memo, please note the Stacy Thomas Scholarship). Checks may be mailed to Jupiter High School (500 Military Trail, Jupiter, FL 33458), Attn: Adult Education, or brought to the Memorial Service. Prayer Card Copy - Remember Me:

Fill not your hearts
with pain and sorrow,
But remember me in
every tomorrow.
Remember the joy, the
laughter, the smiles,
I've only gone to rest
a little while.
Although my leaving
causes pain and grief,
My going has
eased my hurt,
And given me relief.
So dry your eyes and
remember me,
Not as I am now, but
as I used to be.
Because I will
remember you all,
And look on with a smile,
Understand in your hearts,
I've only gone to rest
a little while.
As long as I have the
love of each of you, I
can live my life in the
hearts of all of you.

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Have your funeral home contact us

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





FAITH

'Spread God's word': Holly Pond's Ava Claire discusses how God has changed her life

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — Holly Pond's Ava Claire will be a senior in August, and on May 25, Ava gave her life to Jesus Christ alongside three of her best friends. Making the decision alongside them meant the world to her, and so many of their loved ones and the younger kids watched the whole thing.

"Getting baptized on May 25th was the best feeling and has opened my eyes to what I was made for. Being baptized alongside my best friends and Sawyer Olinger was such a blessing. Seeing them surrender their lives to Christ was so incredible, and I am so glad that I had them right beside me, making the best decision of our lives," Claire said.

"It was incredible. I'm so thankful to be loved by so many people. I hope that the little kids saw the incredible change in my life and just how good God is. I hope it encourages them to make that decision for themselves."

Ava feels blessed to have God in her life, and she shared her favorite Bible verse.

"God means so much to me. He is so good. He has changed my life, and I feel comfort knowing He is walking beside me every day, and that He has a plan for my life," Claire said. "My favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 16:3: 'Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans'. This verse means a lot to me, because before I was truly saved, I didn't fully commit to Him. I would surrender certain aspects of my life but not my whole life. Now that I am saved, I have submitted my whole life to Him, trusting in Him, knowing that He is always by my side, and that His plan is always better. Being fully committed to the Lord, I know that He has a plan for my life. It's in His hands, and it's all in His timing."

Ava wants to play a part in helping other people find God and being a role model for younger kids is at the top of her list.

"It's so important, because we are called to make disciples. In the Bible, it says, 'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'. (Matthew 28:19) Being an example to others and allowing God's light to shine through me, I believe, can change many people's lives, and show them how good God really is," Claire said. "Being that role model for the younger kids is very important, because I can show them how much God loves us and just how good He is."

Ava helped so many people find God at a church camp that she was a part of and helping out at the camp helped her fully commit her life to God as well.

"While attending New Hope #2 church camp this past weekend, we went around the community handing out cards, telling people about God's love and how He forgives us of our sins.

"I believe that we had a great response to the outreach, and I pray that we planted seeds in the people we spoke to. It changed my life, because it allowed me to see just how special telling the Word of God is. It also showed me just how important it is to spread God's word, because so many people's faces lit up when we spoke to them," she said. "I just have felt God tug at my heart for the last couple of years, but attending church camp really just made me realize that I was really ready to fully commit my life to God."

She gave some advice to the people that want a relationship with God but are either new to that experience or struggling. She has taken away so much from her journey so far.

"Being new myself, I would say surround yourself with people who are encouraging and that help lead you to Christ. I would also say prayer. Prayer has changed my walk in so many ways and is so powerful. Getting in the Word has also helped me in my walk. I have been trying to read it every day, and it just puts so much knowledge and wisdom in your mind and just allows you to understand how to have an intimate relationship with God," she said. "I have learned that God forgives and that your past doesn't define who you are. I have also learned that I need to trust in the Lord, because He is my strength, and He will be by my side, helping me to overcome anything I face."



AVA CLAIRE

Holly Pond's Ava Claire

Cullman City Schools working to double number of pre-school students

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Learning can never start too soon, according to Cullman City Schools, which said it is actively working to grow its pre-kindergarten program and position the initiative for future growth to be able to serve more students than ever.

The board is working to double the number of pre-school children taking advantage of its offerings, and a key step in that process is to transition from the federal Head Start Program to the state First Class Pre-K program. Alabama's First Class Pre-K program has ranked as the nation's best for 19 consecutive years. The change is intended to bring more stability to Cullman City Schools' pre-school program, as funding from Head Start has been unreliable and inconsistent in the past.

The district said it also plans to not just retain current personnel related to the pre-school program, but also add more roles to serve more students over the next five years.

The Alabama's First Class Pre-K program is a tuition-free program completely funded by the Alabama Legislature using Alabama tax dollars.

So no matter the socioeconomic status or family dynamic, this would allow Cullman City Schools to serve pre-school children with a quality, reliable program.

"Research consistently shows that students who attend Alabama's First Class Pre-K program are more likely to experience long-term academic success compared to those who do not," CCPS Principal and Head Start Director Elizabeth Shaddix said.

"The program has been awarded the highest quality rating by the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) for 19 consecutive years, reflecting its commitment to excellence and impactful early learning."

How Alabama's First Class Pre-K provides more stability

By transitioning to Alabama's First Class Pre-K program, via the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education, the Office of School Readiness (OSR), local officials believe it will provide more long-term stability for the district's pre-school program.

"Over the past 10 years, Alabama has tripled access to the First Class Pre-K program," Acting Secretary of the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education Jan Hume said in a statement.

"As a state, we have moved from serving less than 8,000 children in the 2014-2015 school year to now serving more than 24,000 children in nearly 1,500 classrooms. While serving more children is a huge accomplishment, we are most proud of our state's continued commitment to quality."

In January 2025, the Trump administration announced a freeze on federal grants, causing significant concern for Head Start programs nationwide.

Although it was later clarified that Head Start would be exempt from the freeze, additional challenges followed. In February 2025, a crash of the federal website disrupted Head Start center operations.

In April 2025, regional Head Start offices were closed, and early drafts of the administration's budget proposal indicated plans to eliminate all federal funding for Head Start.

Although the final budget did not eliminate the program, these events have raised continued concerns about its long-term stability.

"I continue to grow concerned regarding inconsistent federal funding, therefore Cullman City Schools is actively pursuing state funding to support the addition of more 4-year-old classrooms at Cullman City Primary School," Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said.

"These expanded opportunities will allow more children to attend a high-quality pre-kindergarten program taught by certified teachers — at no cost to families residing within the district."

In addition to funding stability, the eligibility requirements for federal Head Start also create some bottlenecks locally. Eligibility for Head Start is determined by federal poverty guidelines. In the city of Cullman, the median household income is $63,704.

To that end, the Cullman City Head Start program is currently funded to serve 94 students.

However, based on the Cullman City Head Start Community Assessment Data, only 72 children meet the eligibility criteria, resulting in unfilled program spots. This spring, the program was only able to serve 68 students.

By moving to Alabama's First Class Pre-K program, some of those hurdles can be cleared to allow more students to benefit from pre-school education.

Expanding pre-school program a core priority

For the past several years, finding ways to grow the district's pre-school program has been a key priority for the school board and district leaders. In January 2023, Cullman City Schools launched a series of community forums to gather input from stakeholders across the community in the development of a district-wide strategic plan.



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

A recent pre-school student attends a Cullman City Schools' pre-school program.

This plan serves as a roadmap for the direction and growth of Cullman City Schools over the next five years. One of the core priorities identified in the strategic plan is the expansion of learning opportunities for 4-year-old children, and district leaders believe making this transition is the best way to achieve that goal.

"Our district is committed to serving as many 4-year-olds in our community as possible," Kallhoff added. "Awarding Cullman City Schools with additional classroom grants will allow us to make significant progress toward fulfilling this goal.

"As one of the top-ranked school districts in the state of Alabama, expanding early learning opportunities will only build upon the strong foundation already in place."