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AUBREY SANDLIN

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Cullman City Council shows support for local arts, officials and police

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council on Monday showed its support for local arts by donating to the Cullman High School Theatre program, and by acting on plans to renovate the building recently purchased to house Cullman Community Theatre. The council recognized CHS for its first-place finish in the state high school theater competition, and presented the program a $5,000 check to help over 30 students and staff attend the International Thespian Festival in Bloomington, Indiana beginning on June 21, 2025, where they will perform "Charlotte's Web" as Alabama's official representatives.

The council » PAGE 8



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman High School Theatre Booster Club President Casey Sandlin and Musical Director Sarah Jane Skinner (third and fourth from left), accompanied by students, accept a $5,000 check from Council President Jenny Folsom (second from left) and members of the Cullman City Council on Monday, June 2, 2025.

Yutaka Technologies celebrates 30th anniversary



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

City, county and state officials were invited to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Cardington Yutaka Technologies in Cullman on Wednesday, June 4, 2025.



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The City of Cullman donated a tree that was planted outside of Cardington Yutaka Technologies in Cullman as part of its 30th anniversary celebration on Wednesday, June 4, 2025.

Cullman City Schools: 2024-2025 year in review



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Middle School is seen on Friday, March 7, 2025.

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Whitehead, Guthrie voted Baileyton Volunteer, Citizen of the Year

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Fairview Town Council discusses trailer park demolition, Air Evac contract

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West Point scholars heading to quizbowl championship

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PET OF THE WEEK

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CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Lucy

» PAGE 6

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported June 4

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported June 4, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

May 30

• domestic violence-3rd degree; person; St. Joseph St. NW

June 2

• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $41; Olive St. SW

• criminal trespass-2nd degree; Coin Laundry; 4th St. SW

May 3

• retail theft of property-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $16; Olive St. SW

• criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS

June 2-3

Lee, Nicholas W.; 25

• domestic violence-3rd degree

Thompson, Tyler D.; 31

• retail theft of property-2nd degree

• unlawful possession/receiving controlled substance

Lay, Rachel L.; 34

• criminal trespass-2nd degree

• possession of drug paraphernalia

Richards, James H.; 38

• FTA – insurance violation

• FTA – driving while suspended

Uselton, Dana M.; 36

• retail theft of property-3rd degree

• possession of drug paraphernalia

Valdez, Kelly A.; 27

• criminal trespass-3rd degree

Li, Xin; 55

• GJ – criminal negligent homicide

• GJ – run stop sign

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Baileyton (from Front)

Katie Spicer
katie@cullmantoday.com

BAILEYTON, Ala. — Mayor Windell Calloway called the monthly session of the Baileyton Town Council to order on June 2, with Councilman Benny Guthrie opening the meeting with an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The council started the meeting by closing out old business.

First on the agenda, Town Clerk Summer Bixler discussed her efforts in organizing the financial statements from prior to the beginning of her tenure.

Bixler stated that while trying to enter all the scattered information into the online platform QuickBooks, "It was a disaster."

She said it's an ongoing process, but the Town now only has two months' worth of 2024 statements left to update before its audit can be completed.

Next up, Calloway acknowledged that town roadways are in need of maintenance, saying, "The way the weather has been with the rain has made things pretty tough.

"We've had to wait on it, and there is still water in some of the ditches. When it clears up, we will start mowing it." In the meantime, the mayor said, a string trimmer will be used in severe areas until mowing can be completed. He also said the Town will be using cold patches to help repair damaged roadways.

In new business, the council discussed nominees for Baileyton Volunteer and Citizen of the Year.

One nominee for volunteer of the year was brought forth for consideration – Charlie Whitehead. Ginger Tucker wrote a letter to the council nominating Whitehead, stating, "Charlie has donated many hours to our town without needing or wanting any recognition.

"He has helped with many projects with the roads... and many jobs at the school... He has volunteered his time, truck and equipment to help with Bargain Days.

"He is a great asset to the community and willing to help at any time."

Two citizens were presented for nomination. The first nomination was made by Dewayne Sumner, putting forth Martha Guthrie as a candidate.

His nomination stated, "Mrs. Guthrie has been a staple in the Baileyton community for many years. She and her deceased husband have always been active parts of the growth and development of Baileyton.

"Mrs. Guthrie is an active member of her church and works with them to provide meals to those in need... is a valued member of the Parkside School Resource Team...I can't think of anyone more deserving of being recognized as Baileyton Citizen of the Year in 2025."

The second nominee for Citizen of the Year was made by Debra Moon on behalf of Jo Withey.

The recommendation read, "Jo uses her God-given love and concern for others, talents, skills and experiences every day to bring honor and glory to God in all that she does.

"She never brings attention to herself for recognition of things she is a part of. She is an active mentor every week at Parkside School, an active partner and participant in the Parkside Outreach Program, she coordinates and shops for the Kids for Kids organization... her skills have been a great blessing not only to our church but to the entire Baileyton community."

All nominees were put forth for a vote, and the council unanimously voted Charlie Whitehead as Volunteer of the Year and Martha Guthrie as Citizen of the Year.

Whitehead and Guthrie will be recognized at the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

In other business:

• June Bargain Days will take place on June 7, at 8 a.m. at Baileyton Town Park

• July Bargain Days has been rescheduled to Saturday, July 12, due to the Independence Day holiday.

• A resolution was passed to appoint the town clerk to be charged with the supervision and management of the General Municipal Election

The next town council meeting date will be Monday, July 7, at 7 p.m. at Baileyton Town Hall, located at 95 Fire Station Road.

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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

• 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 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.

Cullman Chapter of NARFE (National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association) Meeting

Monday, June 9, at The Golden Corral Buffet in Cullman. Dutch senior lunch begins at 11 a.m. Meeting begins at noon. Peggy Harris is in charge of the program agenda: "Exercises to Improve Flexibility and Balance." Members and nonmembers are welcome to attend!

Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting

Thursday, June 12, at 6 p.m. at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr., Cullman. AL 35055.

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.

Mt. Nebo VBS – 'Magnified'

June 16-20, 6-8:30 p.m. 11 County Road 1273, Cullman. (See The Tribune's full VBS listing at cullmantribune.com/2025/06/02/list-the-ultimate-cullman-vbs-summer-roadmap.

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.







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PREP SPORTS

'At Vinemont, we are all one family': Vinemont's Aubrey Sandlin reflects on Eagle years

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — Vinemont senior Aubrey Sandlin collected her diploma in May, and in this interview, she shared some of her favorite sports memories from playing volleyball and basketball alongside her teammates and friends.

"My favorite volleyball memories from my 10th grade years were when we got runner-up in the county tournament and all the bus rides we had. My favorite memories from my senior year were when we won the Hanceville Tournament with coach Bobby Daniels, winning the area championship, finishing 49-12 on the season, and just making memories with all of my friends on the court and just being able to play with my other seniors my whole life and the younger girls being our best sister friends.

"In basketball, I just enjoyed all the memories I made with the girls on the bus rides and being on the court with them," Aubrey said.

"It was always challenging but in a good way. Having so many athletes that were really good, it made you work for everything, and there was good competition to go against at practice for everyone to better themselves. We all are close, so it was fun being able to play with your best friends and girls that felt like sisters. What I learned from them is that when they say, 'One team, one family', your team really is your family, and you do have to give each other respect on the court. I learned that with being so close to the younger ones, they really do look up to the older ones. Cheering each other on and pushing your teammate will really make a difference in the end. We are all each other's support system in the locker room during that season and being able to be so close and have a great bond makes the sport so much better. They taught us that no matter what, we will always be family and for us to be the right example they look up to."

She took away so much from some amazing coaches during her career, and she will deeply miss playing sports at Vinemont.

"It was great. There were times when we thought it was going to be the death of us, but every coach taught us something in some type of way. We all have a memory with that coach that we will remember, no matter what. They definitely pushed us, no matter what, and they never gave us any slack, which is what we needed. I respect all the coaches for pushing us until we couldn't anymore. They taught us that nothing in life will ever be handed to us, that we have to put the work in to prove ourselves, and no off days does pay off. All the tears and I give up thinking I couldn't do it anymore all paid off in the end to be the successful player I ended up becoming and have the years we had," Sandlin said. "I will always remember the players and the tough times we had, and we ended up pushing through. I will also remember the good memories we made on and off the court. We all have a bond that I will never forget."

Aubrey made so many amazing high school memories during her years there, and Vinemont will always be family to her.

"My favorite memories were going to all the football, volleyball, basketball, and baseball games with all of my friends and having them in my classes, when we were in coach Drummond's class, always picking on him and him goofing off with us, and going to prom with friends, senior homecoming, and all the senior activities we did together," she said. "What made Vinemont a special place to go was the teachers. They all treated us like their own kid, and I will forever be grateful to have gone to Vinemont and be taught by all of the teachers I had. It's even better when my family teaches there too. Having my uncle as my vice principal made me feel much safer at school. The teachers always made me feel like I could go talk to any of them if I ever needed to. They always reminded us that we will succeed in life and for us to always follow our dreams. And going to a small school where everyone knows everyone, that was the school where I met my forever family of friends. At Vinemont, we are all one family."

She will remember and miss so much about being an Eagle and participating in the FCCLA and the FFA were valuable experiences for her as well.

"I will remember all of the friendships I made and all of the wonderful memories I made from kindergarten-12th grade. I will remember all of the love that Vinemont really has for each other and the amazing staff that they have. I will miss all of the friends, all of the teachers, all the times walking in the hallways, making silly faces or just meeting them to talk in the hallways. Being in the FCCLA was great. We went on a lot of fun field trips, and we had a lot of fun being able to go to the nursing home and giving them bags of goodies and cards. We loved seeing them smile, and they were happy that someone came to see them. Being in the FCA was great as well. It was amazing being able to hear the Word before school and being able to see other classmates in the room before school to make time for God to lead them," Sandlin said. "It really does go by fast. Soak up every minute of it. There will be hard days, but don't let those hard days make you think high school is the worst. Make those memories with your friends, step out of your comfort zone, go do all of the silly games, and always be there for each other."

Being a role model and an inspiration to younger kids is important to Aubrey and her relationship with God has played an enormous role in helping her be the person that she is today.

"It is very important. I've always been told that younger kids always look up to the older people, no matter what. Little kids see a lot of things we do and don't even realize what we did right in front of them. I know what's right from wrong, and I think it's very important to show younger kids how you should act and be. Coaching for NC Premier showed me that younger girls do look up to me, and I need to set an example on how to be when I'm around them. Seeing all the kids' eyes open wide when we walked through the school one last time showed me that they were all looking up to us and are wanting to be that senior," Aubrey said. "God has played a huge part in my life in so many ways. I have always tried to be independent and do anything on my own, until I realized I can't do it all by myself anymore. I got to lay it all down at God's feet, and let His timing be my timing. It's all God's timing. My favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:13: 'I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.' That verse means everything to me. With Him, anything is possible. That doesn't mean I won't go through hard times, but that means I will never fail and be beat up, because I have Christ with me by my side. As long as I have Him by my side, all things are possible."



AUBREY SANDLIN

Vinemont's Aubrey Sandlin

4 Tigers to begin Palmer Cup representing Team USA

Tucker Cleverdon
AU Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. — Auburn's Carson Bacha, Anna Davis, Josiah Gilbert and Jackson Koivun will compete for the United States in the 2025 Arnold Palmer Cup, set for Thursday through Sunday at Congaree Golf Club in Ridgeland, South Carolina.

Team USA will be led by Tigers head coach Nick Clinard. Auburn associate head coach Chris Williams will also represent the United States as an assistant coach.

The Arnold Palmer Cup is a Ryder Cup-style tournament featuring the top men's and women's college golfers, matching the United States against a team of international players.

The competition begins Thursday with 12 groups of two-person teams competing in mixed four-ball matches. Friday's schedule includes one round of foursomes and one round of mixed foursomes, followed by a final round of singles matches on Saturday. Each match win is worth one point; ties are worth a half point.

Anna Davis, from Auburn's women's golf team, will represent the United States for the second consecutive year in the Arnold Palmer Cup.

In her sophomore season, Davis was named a second-team All-American by both the WGCA and Golfweek. She also earned first-team All-SEC honors and is currently No. 8 in the World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR).

She won the Charles Schwab Women's Collegiate Invitational with a program-record 54-hole score of 201 (9-under), which included a bogey-free 64 in the final round. Davis also claimed the individual title at the Illini Invitational at Medinah in the fall with a 203 (13-under).

Joining Davis in making back-to-back Palmer Cup appearances is the sophomore sensation Koivun.

The First Team All-American delivered another remarkable run in the Orange & Blue with tournament wins at the Inverness Intercollegiate, SEC Championship and NCAA Auburn Regional.

He was named SEC Golfer of the Year for the second consecutive season and was a finalist for each National Player of the Year Award (Haskins, Hogan, Nicklaus).

At 69.00 strokes per round, Koivun also broke his own program record for single-season scoring average. He led the 2024-25 team in average, rounds below par (28), birdies (160) and top-five finishes (7).

Bacha and Gilbert are both set to represent the Red, White and Blue for the first time in their respective careers.

Delivering his best in his fifth and final year on The Plains, Bacha played his way to both Second Team All-SEC and Second Team All-America honors.

The only Tiger to compete in all 14 team events, he finished top 10 in half of them. The York, Pennsylvania native added a 70.37 scoring average and 21 subpar rounds.

Another All-SEC and All-American performer, Gilbert, was a vital component of the Auburn lineup from start to finish. With a 70.45 average, 19 subpar rounds, 146 birdies and a team-leading seven eagles, the Millbrook, Alabama native was an undeniable pick for Team USA.

In September, Gilbert earned his first career win with a 12-under week at the Valero Texas Collegiate.

He added four more top 15s before closing the season with three straight top 20s, including a fifth-place finish in Auburn's dominant win at its home regional.

Live scoring will be available at Golfstat.com and via the GolfStat mobile app.

The Arnold Palmer Cup was co-founded by Arnold Palmer and the Golf Coaches Association of America in 1997 at Bay Hill Club & Lodge in Orlando, Florida. The United States leads the series 14-12-1.

The event is supported by the Arnold & Winnie Palmer Foundation, which provides a platform for advancing Palmer's legacy of youth character development and support for amateur golf. More information is available at ArnoldPalmerCup.com.





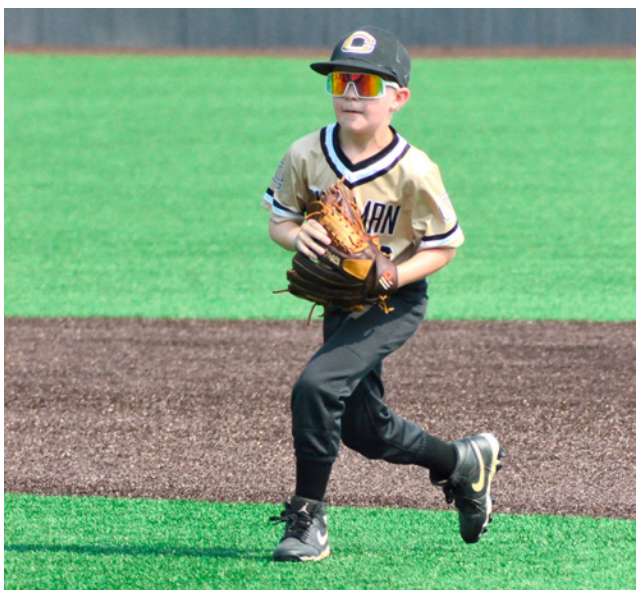
Cullman Baseball hosts Bearcat Baseball Academy Camp

This week, campers aged 6-13 spent Monday, Wednesday and Thursday learning skills firsthand from Cullman High School coaches, players and former players at Bill Shelton Field.

Photos: Nick Griffin










Fairview (from Front)

Katie Spicer
katie@cullmantoday.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. — Mayor Keith Henry called the monthly meeting of the Fairview Town Council to order on Monday, June 2. Councilwoman Julie Grimes opened the meeting with an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business on the agenda was to discuss the demolition of the local trailer park. Henry stated, "All of the trailers that are ours are empty. The two remaining occupied were waiting on better weather to be able to move their own trailers, so the area is about ready to be deemed surplus."

Councilman Steve Eddleman made a motion to go ahead and deem the area surplus and to bid out the removal of vacant trailers. The council agreed unanimously.

Next up, Henry answered questions about the Town's Air Evac contract.

"If you are a resident in Fairview and you don't have an individual membership with them, they will pick you up anywhere in Cullman County – if you have insurance, it won't cost you anything. If you don't have insurance, you will pay the Medicare allowable rate, which is approximately $55," he said.

Town residents automatically receive this coverage as a benefit of living in the town limits. Discounted rates are available for Fairview residents who wish to upgrade to national coverage. Visit the Fairview Town Hall Facebook page to get more information on individual contracts. www.facebook.com/fairviewtownhall

In other business:

- Resident request for the repair of County Road 1668. Council stated it would inquire about grants to get the road paved and will schedule patching in the meantime.
- Resident acknowledged beaver dams forming near the end of Wesley Avenue causing road hazards. Council stated it would investigate the issue and contact the appropriate parties about rectification.
- Jack's Family Restaurant update: Projected opening January 2026

The next Fairview Town Council meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on July 7, 2025, at Fairview Town Hall located at 7525 Alabama Highway 69.

27th Annual Hanceville
Antique Tractor & Engine Show
JUNE 14th, 2025
9:00 am - 1:30 pm
Wallace State Community College
801 Mainstreet Northwest
Hanceville, AL 35077


EVERYONE WELCOME!
Slow Races, Skillet Throwing Contest, Peddle Tractor Races, Best in Show, Parade of Power, The Street Kitchen food truck, and Homemade Ice cream!
205-616-4173 or 256-590-2478

NIKE BASKETBALL CAMP
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OMNIPLEX
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JUN 14
HERITAGE PARK
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WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE-HANCEVILLE
HAS THE FOLLOWING OPEN POSITIONS:
BIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR
SPEECH INSTRUCTOR
CUSTODIAN
CUSTODIAN SUPERVISOR
For more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 256-352-8029.
Wallace State Community College is an equal opportunity employer. EOE

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

Lucy (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Meet Lucy, a beautiful and sweet shepherd mixed with everything exceptional a dog could offer. Lucy is The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

This sweet lass is approximately 8-9 years old, but don't let her age fool you – she is ready to play!

She has a big heart, but her first day at the shelter was tough, as she shook and shook.

Those tending to sweet Lucy frequently reminded her the shelter is just her sleep-away camp.

She so looks forward to your company and enjoys time spent by your side. Lucy is a true lady, which makes her perfect for a therapy/companion dog.

Her caretaker said, "What a special, loving soul she is. I just love her!"

Lucy is already spayed, so her adoption fee has been reduced to only $35, which covers vaccines, wormer, general exam at the vet and microchip.

Come meet Lucy today; you don't want to miss out on this lovely girl's affection and loyalty.

If you come by and Lucy is already adopted, please take a moment to visit with her friends who are all seeking their forever homes.

Visit the shelter at 935 Convent Road NE. It's open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Contact the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullman-animalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Nunnelley's Storage , Hwy 67 S., Somerville, AL 35670

Will sale contents of the following units at 10:00 a.m. on June 14, 2025

Unit #100 Linda Pitts, 1105 Maplewood Dr. S.W., Hartselle, AL 35640

Unit #56 Heather Holizer, 1640 Sparkman St. , Hartselle, AL 35640

Unit #46 Robbie Thorne, 318 Bluff City Rd. Lot D3, Somerville, AL 35670

Unit #82 Randell Smith, 45 Robinson Lane, Somerville, AL 35670

Unit #62, 63, 128 Kathy Powell, 261 A Hobb Ward Rd., Hartselle, AL 35640

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
ANGELA FAITH SMITH, * CASE NO.: PC2025-091
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to JOHN P. SEGAL as Personal Representative of the Estate of ANGELA FAITH SMITH, deceased, on the 2nd day of June 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

John P. Segal
Administrator

Caleb W. Balley, Esq.
Martinson & Beason, P. C.
Attorney for Petitioners
115 North Side Square
Huntsville, AL 35801

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

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

DONE this 2nd day of June, 2025.

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

1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT
OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: IN THE MATTER OF)
THE ESTATE OF:) CASE NUMBER PC2025-193
BETTY JEAN BASS,)
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary upon Last Will and Testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 2nd day of June, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Kim Mangham-Barelare
Personal Representative

Patrick H. Boone
Attorney for the Estate of Betty Jean Bass
705 New South Federal Savings Building
215 Richard Arrington, Jr. Blvd. North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203-3720
Telephone: 205-324-2018
Facsimile: 205-324-2295
E-Mail: patrickboone@bellsouth.net

TO: CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the above notice once a week for three successive weeks in said newspaper. The bill/notice should be sent to attorney, Patrick H. Boone, at the above address.

Kim Mangham-Barelare
Personal Representative of the
Estate of Betty Jean Bass

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
PATTY LOU SMITH, * CASE NO.: PC2025-071
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Charles Randell Posey, Personal Representative, on the 4th day of June, 2025 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

CHARLES RANDELL POSEY
Personal Representative

Kalif R. Green, Esq.
Kalif R. Green, Attorney at Law, LLC
107 Bangor Ave NE
Hanceville, AL 35077
(256) 735-6040
kalifrgreen@gmail.com

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

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

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

Notice to Contractors
Advertisement for Bid
Project: Renovations to Finley Circle
Bid Number: 2025-06

Sealed bid proposals will be received by the town clerk, Town of Holly Pond, P.O. Box 9, Holly Pond, Alabama, 35083, and/or 10885 U.S. Hwy 278 East, Holly Pond, Alabama 35083, until 3:00 p.m. local time on June 19, 2025 for the Renovations to Finley Circle. All bids shall include furnishing all labor, materials and equipment, and for doing the work of constructing, according to Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents, the works of improvements.

This project involves a street renovation. Proposals will be received by mail or may be hand delivered on the date of the bid opening. Please reach out to the Mayor or Clerk of the Town of Holly Pond for specifications, requirements, and more information.

Proposals shall be clearly identified on the exterior of the package with the bidder's name, address and State of Alabama General Contractors License Number, the name of the project being bid and time and place of the bid opening. Bids will be publicly opened and read. Faxed bids will not be accepted. All proposals received after the date and time of the bid opening noted above will be returned unopened.

A cashier's check or bid bond payable to the Town of Holly Pond in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid, 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.

All Bids shall be held after the time for opening of Bids has passed. The Owner reserves the right to hold the Bids for a period of sixty (60) calendar days after the date of receipt of Bids.

Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents may be obtained from the town Clerk at 10885 U.S. Hwy 278 East, Holly Pond, Alabama 35083.

Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished in the Contract Documents or copied thereof. All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors 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 town. 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 will not consider any Bid unless the Bidder produces evidence that he is properly licensed. Neither will the Owner enter into a Contract with a foreign corporation that is not qualified under State Law to do business in the state in which the site of work is located. The owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive technical errors or informalities, and to accept any Bid considered advantageous to the Owner.

The Contractor whose Bid is selected must furnish a Performance Bond for one hundred percent (100%) of the Bid amount and a payment bond for five percent (5%) of the bid amount. Bonds must be secured from a bonding company's representative agent authorized and licensed to do business in the state of Alabama. Each bond shall be countersigned by an agent of the Surety having residence in the state of Alabama, and is authorized and licensed to do business in the state of Alabama and each bond shall depict the complete address of said agent.

Nonresident bidders must accompany any written bid documents with a written opinion of an attorney at law licensed to practice law in such nonresident bidder's state of domicile, as to the preferences, if any or none, granted by the law of that state to its own business entities whose principal places of business are in that state in the letting of any or all public contracts.

Town of Holly Pond Holly Pond, Alabama
Carla Hart
By: Carla Hart, Its: Mayor

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Eddie M Forster, and spouse and Glenda A Forster to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for AHL Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns dated August 14, 2007; said mortgage being recorded on September 7, 2007 in Deed Book 1536, Page 419, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust by assignment recorded in Deed Book 377, Page 290, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on July 10, 2025 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 23, Township 10 South, Range 1 West, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a found 1-1/2 inch pipe marking the Northeast Corner of said Section 23; thence South 0 degrees 32 minutes 11 seconds West a distance of 2014.18 feet to a found iron at the Southeast Corner of Lot 9 of Richmond Estates Subdivision (Plat Book B, Page 323 A); thence South 1 degree 37 minutes 21 seconds West along the accepted east line of said forty a distance of 347.32 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron and the true point of beginning of the property herein described; thence from said true point of beginning, continue South 1 degree 37 minutes 21 seconds West along said accepted east line a distance of 313.01 feet to a found 5/8 inch rebar iron marking the accepted Southeast Corner of the above described forty; thence North 89 degrees 29 minutes 36 seconds West the accepted south line of said forty a distance of 153.55 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence North 1 degree 37 minutes 10 seconds East a distance of 313.95 feet to a set 5/8 inch rebar iron; thence South 89 degrees 08 minutes 34 seconds East a distance of 153.55 feet to the true point of beginning.

Said property is commonly known as **741 County Road 695, Holly Pond, AL 35083**.

Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description will control.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage.

US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 23-04683AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Review (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — As the 2024-2025 school year comes to a close, the Cullman City Board of Education is looking back at a year marked by significant achievements and milestones across its schools and programs, from long-awaited expansions to continued high academic achievement that has come to define Cullman City Schools. Heading into summer, here are some of the major accomplishments over the past school year and what they mean for local students and the community.

August 2024

• Broke ground on a new second grade playground at Cullman City Primary School

• Started the school year with approximately 3,200 students from Kindergarten through 12th grade

• Approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cullman Police Department to enhance student safety as a top priority

• Celebrated academic excellence with notable rankings in Alabama test scores: English Language Arts (fourth), Mathematics (eighth) and Science (fifth)

September 2024

• Approved a $68 million budget for Fiscal Year 2025, including provisions for locally funded teachers and capital projects; closed the fiscal year with a $12.7 million fund balance

• Advanced capital plans for school expansions and upgrades, including Cullman Intermediate and Cullman High School projects

• Honored board members for fulfilling professional development requirements

October 2024

• Recognized National Merit Scholar Semifinalists and Commended Students from Cullman High School

• Celebrated East Elementary as a National Blue Ribbon School, a first in 15 years for the district. East Elementary was one of just five schools out of more than 1,380 schools in Alabama to be named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2024.

• Awarded major construction projects to enhance educational facilities and infrastructure, including Cullman Intermediate School project to Wyatt Builds of Birmingham; Cullman High CTE/STEM wing to Eidson Construction from Cullman; began fiber upgrade project for Cullman Middle, Cullman High, Cullman City Primary and the Board of Education

November 2024

• Commended Cullman High Volleycats for their historic season and first state finals appearance

• Recognized Cullman City Primary School as a regional finalist for the Attorney General's Safe Schools Initiative

December 2024

• Honored outstanding Teachers of the Year across the district

• Achieved top grades in the Alabama State Report cards, with all schools reporting As and systemwide improvements

January 2025

• Initiated new school projects and recognized National Board Certified Teachers

• Approved the academic calendar for the upcoming year

• Hired Trent Walker as the Cullman High School head football coach

February 2025

• Received the Attorney General's Safe Schools Initiative award at Cullman City Primary School. CCPS was one of six schools from across the state of Alabama selected to receive the Safe School Award, this award is the highest achievement for school safety in Alabama.

• Advanced construction on the Cullman High CTE/STEM wing

• Celebrated excellence in performing arts and athletics at Cullman High School

March 2025

• Hired Tammy West as the Cullman High School head girls' basketball coach

• Recognized two finalists for the Governor's App Challenge

• Approved contracts to replace the elevator and roof at the Board of Education

• Hosted the second annual Cullman City School System Job Fair

• Completed the Cognia 5 year accreditation process. Received a score of 343, which is 50 points higher than the Cognia average and one of the top scores in Alabama during the 2024-2025 school year.

April 2025

• Procured three new school buses to replace three outdated buses used to transport students who participate in extracurricular activities

• Prepared for upcoming summer enrichment programs and athletics leadership

May 2025

• Announced elementary summer camps to promote literacy, numeracy and STEM skills

• Made major athletics hires, including Mike Dean as the Cullman City School System athletic director and Drew Bryson as the Cullman High School softball coach

• Graduated over 250 seniors who secured approximately $5.1 million in scholarship funding.

• Awarded the bid from Eidson Construction to replace the windows in the Cullman Middle School cafeteria

The Cullman City Board of Education said it looks forward to building on these successes in the coming academic year, continuing to prioritize excellence, safety and student achievement throughout the district.

Obituary Announcements: June 3-4

Wanda Faye Smith, 85
"Gramma Wanda" - September 5, 1939 – June 1, 2025 - Wanda Faye Maddox Smith, lovingly known as Gramma Wanda, age 85, of Center Hill, Alabama, passed away peacefully in her home and surrounded by family, on June 1st, 2025. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, June 7th, 2025, at 12 p.m. at The Methodist Church in Holly Pond. Her Life & Legacy; Wanda was born on September 5, 1939, in Vinemont, Alabama, to Ralph Thomas Maddox and Dollie Arnice Maddox. The oldest of five girls, Wanda's sisters included Joyce Tennesen, Melba Kesting, Cheri Johnson, and baby Donia, who sadly passed away at just nine months old. Wanda's extraordinary life spanned continents and generations. At 19 years old she married Robert Harry Smith Sr. and bravely followed him wherever he and The Lord led. She spent years in Germany and France while he was in the Army, and this is where she began what she always called her life's greatest adventure: being a wife to Robert and a mother. Never one to do anything halfway, she learned both French and German—partly to communicate with locals and partly because, as she'd joke, she needed a new set of sheets. Her first child, Robert Jr., was born in Verdun, France. Then came a chapter in California, where she and Robert welcomed Duane and Danita. After a brief interim move to Indiana, where their son Devin was born—less than a year after Danita—the family returned to California. Their family blossomed alongside her sisters' families, creating a beautiful, interwoven bond where cousins felt more like siblings and every story became part of a larger shared adventure. Wanda's life grew even more adventurous when the family moved to the snowy wilderness of Stewart, British Columbia, Canada, where Desiree and Darilyn were born. The original goal was to homestead, but upon arrival, they discovered the rules had changed. Though Wanda would have followed Robert anywhere, they instead settled in town rather than in the bush as planned. During their time in Stewart, the film Bear Island was shot in the area in 1979. Wanda and Robert had the opportunity to socialize with movie stars such as Christopher Lee, Donald Sutherland, Lloyd Bridges, Richard Widmark, and Vanessa Redgrave. Though they eventually divorced and each remarried, she never stopped loving him—and he never stopped loving her. Their love expanded to new children, and both embraced a blended family with open arms. Wanda lovingly claimed Vicki Smith, Phillip Blackwood, Timothy Blackwood, and Robin Donald as her own, calling them some of her life's greatest blessings. A passion for learning and A Heart for People; Wanda earned her degree in Applied Science from Wallace State Community College at age 54, completing the education she had paused to follow love to Germany at 19 years old. As she told the registrar, "I'll be 54 either way. I can choose to be 54 with a degree, or without one. I would like to finish what I started years ago" She had a long, fulfilling career as a paralegal and secretary, working with attorneys across California and Alabama. The pinnacle of her professional life was her time at Drinkard Development Inc., where she worked alongside Judy and Helen. She especially admired Mr. Roy Drinkard for his kindness and professionalism—never forgetting the day he added "Please" and "Thank you" in different color ink to the top and bottom of the page of a proposal. A Spiritual Legacy; Wanda was a gifted storyteller and poet, but her legacy is praying for anyone she encountered and people who were hurting. Every Monday for several years, she'd pick up a "Just Busted" newspaper from the Pitt Stop gas station—using it as her prayer list for the week. If she found a shiny penny, she'd slip it in her pocket to give to the next person she saw, telling them, "This is for you. The Lord loves you." She was not ashamed of the Gospel and made it her mission to ensure everyone she met knew they were loved—by God, and by her. She was the first caller to the Christian radio station WXJC in Alabama and often listened to their late-night prayer line, offering prayers for strangers in need. She had several friends who were shut ins that were lonely. Wanda made a point to call them each week and read the Bible with them to keep them company. She will be missed by many! Family; Wanda was preceded in death by her first husband Robert Harry Smith Sr., her parents Ralph and Dollie Maddox, her baby sister Donia, and her beloved grandson Devin Thomas Smith. She is survived by her children: Robert Harry Smith Jr., Duane Smith, Danita Quattlebaum, Devin Smith, Desiree Horton, Darilyn Pownall, Vicki Smith, Phillip Blackwood, Timothy Blackwood, and Robin Donald. She leaves behind 25 "cool grandchildren", 16 great-grandchildren, and countless others who knew her simply as "Gramma Wanda." An Eternal Reunion; In a letter, Robert once wrote to Wanda about standing on an overpass above the Tennessee River. He watched the river divide around an island, then raced on his bike to find where the waters converged again. Realizing how much he still loved her, he prayed their paths would follow the same fate—that even after separation, they would come back together. And now, they have. Wanda and Robert Harry Smith Sr., will be laid together in rest, just as they always hoped at Eastside Point Cumberland Cemetery.

John Roland McGraw, 81
Funeral services for John Roland McGraw, 81, of Falkville will be 2 p.m. Thursday, June 5, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Fairview West cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday, June 4, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Mc Graw was born Feb. 6, 1944, in Cullman County, Alabama, to the late Wiley McGraw & Lydia Moon-McGraw. He passed away June 1, 2025, at his residence in Falkville, Alabama. Mr. McGraw is survived by his wife, Annie McGraw; children, Betty Lotero (Jorge), Henry McGraw (Michelle), Johnny McGraw, Ricky McGraw, Vickie Shoemake, Rodney McGraw (Christie); 22 grandchildren; 38 great grandchildren; and his brother, James Donald McGraw. Mr. McGraw was preceded in death by his daughter Cynthia King; son-in-law, Henry King; parents, Wiley McGraw and Lydia Moon-McGraw; and 6 brothers, and sisters. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the McGraw family.

Marlin Ray Hawkins, 86
Funeral services for Marlin Ray Hawkins, 86, of Vinemont will be 12 p.m. Thursday, June 5, 2025, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. The graveside service with military honors will follow at Dorsey Creek Cemetery in Bremen. Bro. Justin Smith will be officiating services. The family will welcome friends for visitation on Thursday at Hanceville Funeral Home from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mr. Hawkins was born on July 10, 1938, to the late Ralph and Maude Sanders-Hawkins in Arkadelphia, Alabama. He died at Folsom Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center on June 1, 2025. Marlin honorably served his country as a Private First Class in the United States Army from 1961 to 1963. Stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, he distinguished himself as a rifle sharpshooter, a role he carried out with pride and precision. His military service was a source of deep honor and remained an important part of his life. He will be remembered not only for his service to his country but also for his steadfast character, generous spirit, and warm heart. Survivors include his brother, Charles Hawkins; sister, Gail Gorham; nieces and nephews, Stacey (Justin) Smith, Carol (Bruce) Harris, Paul Hawkins, Susan (Brad) Casey, David (Brandy) Gorham and Mandy (Tim) Waddell; a host of great nieces and nephews; special friend, Lee Wolf; sisters-in-law, Charlene Hawkins and Jayne Hawkins. In addition to his parents, Mr. Hawkins was preceded in death by his son and daughter-in-law, Harvey (Kim) Hawkins; and nephews, Craig Gorham and Gary Hawkins; brothers, Joe Hawkins and Allen Hawkins; brother-in-law, John Gorham; and sister-in-law, Linda Hawkins. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hawkins Family.

Steve Cupit, 79
Memorial services for Steve Cupit, 79, of Logan are incomplete at this time and will be announced at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Cupit was born on Oct. 24, 1945, and passed away June 3, 2025, at CRMC. He is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Sonia Santos Salerni, 77
Funeral Mass for Sonia Santos Salerni, 77, of Hanceville will be 10 a.m. Friday, June 6, at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. Burial will follow the service at Sacred Heart cemetery. Rosary will be Thursday June 5th at 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. Mrs. Salerni was born Aug. 21, 1947, in the Philippines to Remigio Santos and Florentina Oloeto. She passed away May 30, 2025, in Cullman, Alabama. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Salerni family.

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Cullman (from Front)

also voted to apply to the Appalachian Regional Commission for funds to renovate the facility of the former Clark Street Church of God/Calvary Apostolic First United Pentecostal Church, located immediately east of Cullman City Hall.

The City purchased the building in July 2024 to create a performance venue for Cullman Community Theatre and other performing arts programs.

Mayor Woody Jacobs took time to recognize outgoing volunteer Chairman of the Cullman Housing Authority Ricky Kreps for his 17 years of service, and to announce his appointment of Melissa Betts of The Link of Cullman County to fill that position.

Jacobs also recognized officers of the Cullman Police Department for their location and return of a large City-owned flower pot stolen from near city hall.

Assistant Police Chief Brandon Patterson named Investigators Hunter Riddlesperger and Nicholas Watkins as the officers who used multiple means to locate the item and the person who took it, both found in West Point.

The council held public hearings for ordinances:

- To rezone the Nguyen and Ha property located on Miller Street from R-2 Residential District to B-2 Business District. The council then held the first reading of the ordinance.

- To rezone the Industrial Development Board property located at Alabama Highway 69 and Alabama Highway 157 from M-1 Manufacturing District to B-2 Business District. The council then held the first reading of the ordinance. The council may act on both ordinances at its next meeting.

The council also held the first reading of an ordinance to authorize the issuance of a general obligation warrant in the amount of $5.515 million through the State Revolving Loan Fund for improvements to the City's sanitary sewer system.

Advised by the State to act quickly on the plan, the council suspended regular rules of order to pass the ordinance Monday evening.

The council approved a special event permit request from Amber Thornton of the Cullman County Public Library for a Summer Reading Kickoff Block Party on Clark Street from noon-2 p.m. on June 10, 2025.

The Cullman City Council meets next on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the city hall auditorium. The public is invited to attend.



FAITH

'I deeply hope I've inspired other young people to get closer with the Lord': Cold Springs' Addison Raymond discusses relationship with God

Sammy Confer
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BREMEN, Ala. — Cold Springs' senior Addison Raymond feels blessed to have a relationship with God and in this interview she talked about how He has changed her life and shared her favorite Bible verse.

"God means the world to me. He introduced me to a new meaning in life and to live life in an honest, Christian lifestyle, like God intended. He gives me someone to talk to, like a friend who is always there for me. He is the only person who listens judge-free and without hate. Getting closer to God has made life easier to handle and makes my mental health easier to manage," Raymond said. "My favorite Bible verse is Psalms 46:5: 'God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.' To me, this means that I will stay true to myself and not let outside opinions affect myself. I will stand through triumph with God by my side, and that He will help guide me."

Addison wants to continue to spread her love of Jesus Christ to people of all ages and being a Godly role model for kids is at the top of her list as well.

"It means the world to me, and it makes my day when people who haven't been touched by the word of God listen to my story and allow me to talk about my love for Jesus. I believe that it is our duty as Christians to spread the word of Christ," Raymond said.

"It is very important. In this day and age, there is so much evil going on in the world right now. There isn't a bunch of Godly influencers around, so when you are in a position of power like I myself am in, you have to be your best self.

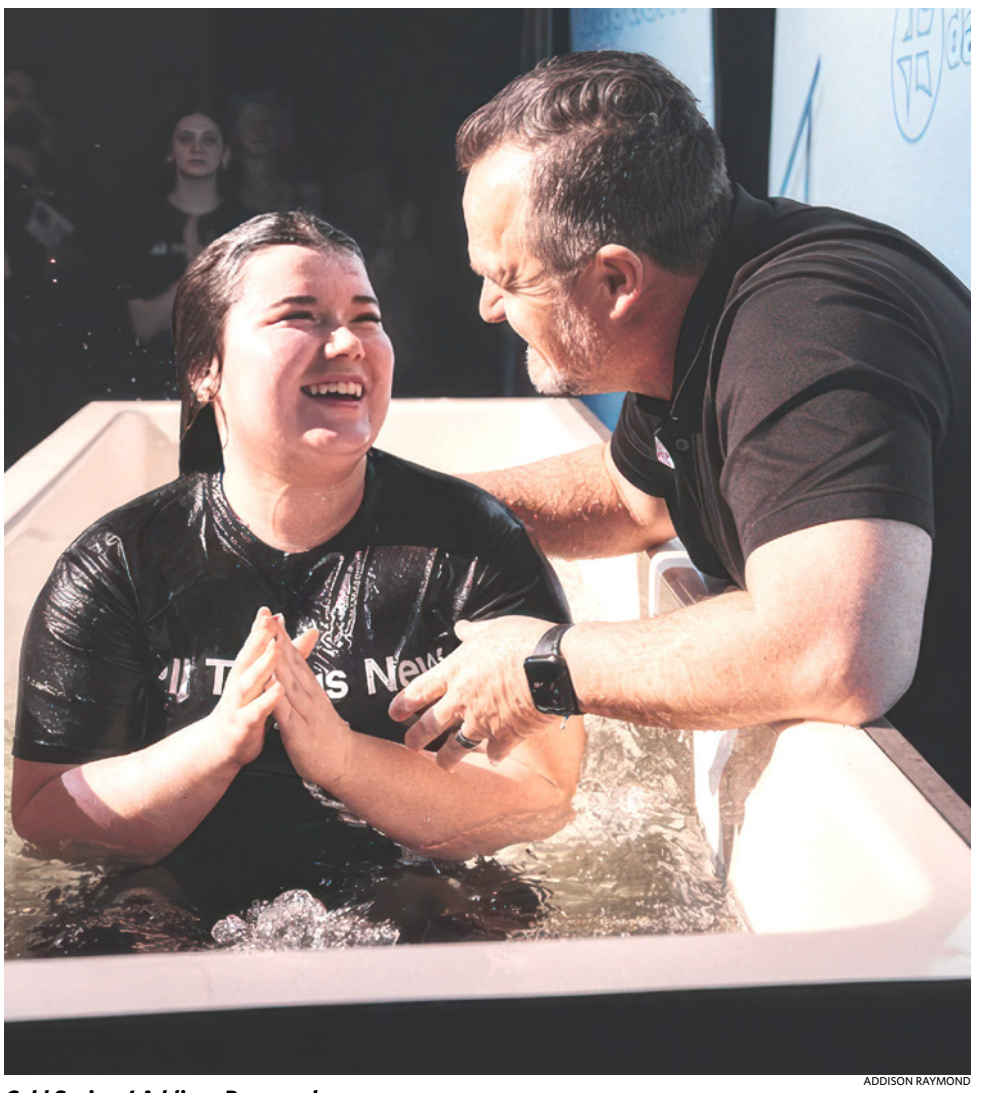
"While some kids might not have grown up Christian, the Christian lifestyle is one that teaches kindness and respect, and every child deserves that."

She recently got baptized and she hopes that she has inspired a lot of people to follow in God's footsteps one day. She has had struggles with her faith for a while, but one day, God began impacting her life in a big way.

"It was such a powerful experience, and I deeply hope I've inspired other young people to get closer with the Lord," she said. "I was just always struggling with my faith, and one day, I woke up with an entirely different feeling and was way more confident and more motivated with the truth."

Addison gave some advice to people who want a relationship with God but might be struggling or are new when it comes to doing that. She talked about what she has learned during her journey so far.

"Don't force it but pray about it. I found that whenever I would try to force my faith or pretend I was somebody I wasn't, I would just feel shame, and it would drive me away. During that time, I would pray, and I would tell God, 'I want to know you, but I am struggling, and I need help,' and that helped me. I would also say surrounding yourself with good Christian people helps too, because it's just good in every field to have people to look up to," she said. "Everybody's walk with Christ is different, and that's okay, because in the end, we'll all walk together."



ADDISON RAYMOND

Cold Springs' Addison Raymond

Free Family Movie Night in the Park June 20 in Vinemont

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VINEMONT, Ala. — Families in Vinemont are invited to Family Movie Night in the Park on Friday, June 20, at the South Vinemont Walking Trail & Art Park, located behind the Vinemont Community Center and fire department. The featured film, "Moana 2," will begin around 7:45-8 p.m. Attendees can arrive as early as 7 for seating and to enjoy the park.

The event is entirely free to attend and will include complimentary popcorn and shaved ice provided by Fro'z. The Vinemont High School wrestling team will also be on-site offering hot dogs and drinks for purchase.

"The inspiration behind organizing Family Movie Night in the Park came from a simple idea: creating a space where families, neighbors and friends could gather, relax and enjoy time together without the barriers that sometimes come with cost or access," shared Morgan Wright, associate broker with Redstone Realty Solutions and one of the organizers behind the event.

"We wanted to offer something that brought everyone together under the stars — a classic, feel-good experience that reminds us of the importance of community."

She added, "We believe that community gatherings should be inclusive and accessible to everyone, regardless of financial circumstances.

"No one should have to miss out on a fun night with their family because of a ticket price.

"Offering it at no cost allows us to remove those barriers and ensure that everyone in Vinemont has the opportunity to come out, make memories and feel part of something special."

In addition to showing a family friendly film, Wright said events like this help build stronger community connections.

"This event gives us the opportunity to meet families face to face and hear their stories. It also opens the door for conversations about what the community needs and values," she said.

"Being present, volunteering and sponsoring events like this help us to stay connected to the heart of Vinemont and ensure that we're contributing in ways that truly matter to the people who live here."

This free community night is made possible by sponsors Jeannie Kelley with Guild Mortgage in Cullman, Matt Garmon with Waterfront Closing & Title and Todd Conn with TCDS Insurance Agency.

The South Vinemont Walking Trail & Art Park is located at 88 Ridgeway St., Cullman, AL 35058 near the South Vinemont Community Center.

West Point scholars heading to quizbowl championship

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WEST POINT, Ala. — West Point High School will compete in the Partnership for Academic Competition Excellence (PACE) National Scholastic Championship (NSC), June 7-8, in Rosemont, Illinois.

PACE Director of Communications Harry White shared that West Point qualified by winning a quizbowl tournament hosted at Tusculum University by finishing with an undefeated 9-0 record.

"To be able to qualify, a team must finish in the top 20% of a local event, which means that those that compete have already proven that they are among the elite in terms of quizbowl ability and knowledge of science, literature, history and the arts," White said. "Teams will typically prepare by playing practice matches using questions from previous NSCs, or even from collegiate tournaments. Many people study individually using flash cards, or they might research and write their own questions to be used at practice."

He said it takes a lot of dedication and effort to be a nationally competitive team, and typically these students have and develop an insatiable level of intellectual curiosity.

"West Point will play 14-16 games over two days of competition against other elite teams from across the country," White said.

"They are bringing back their entire roster from last year's NSC, where they finished 43rd out of a total of 72 teams, so this year they are aiming to improve on last year's finish.

Senior Brodie Henry, in particular, had a standout performance, as he tied for the 26th-best individual performance out of 295 total competitors.

The experience of playing in the NSC gives them the chance to compete against schools from all across the country, experience Chicago and also meet and interact with other driven and talented high school quizbowl players."

According to the NSC, quizbowl is a buzzer-based academic competition played between two teams of up to four players. Questions cover a wide range of academic topics including literature, history, science and the arts. Quizbowl is played by high school students all across the United States.

WPHS Scholars Bowl/Quizbowl Coach Lee Henry said West Point's team has had an amazing few years, but none as successful as this one.

"We won the ASCA State Championship for the third straight year," Henry said. "We won our 13th County Championship in a row. To top it all off, we won the NAQT SSNCT National Championship.

"The team has been led for the past several years by my son, Brodie Henry. He will be joined in Chicago for the PACE NSC by fellow seniors John Davis Yovino and Eli Taylor, as well as junior Sean Harbison.

"This will be the last time the seniors compete in high school and I'm hoping we can go out with another strong showing. Regardless, they are state and national champions. Coaching them has been an incredible honor and they are a testament to hard work and dedication. They decided many years ago that they would win a national title. That's a very lofty goal, but they worked hard and made it happen."

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette said he is extremely proud of the West Point students who have been invited to compete in this competition.

"West Point has a rich tradition of excellence and this is another example," Barnette said.

"Cullman County Schools' motto is Excellent Educational Experiences for Everyone Every Day.' West Point High School's participation in this competition displays the work to reach for excellence. I wish the teachers and students good luck and hope they will win this competition."

The NSC, now in its 27th iteration, brings together the top high school quizbowl teams from all across the country. They will compete over two days of matches for the ultimate title of national champion. This year, 84 teams from 21 states and Washington, D.C. will compete in the NSC. To qualify for the NSC, teams must finish in the top 20% of local affiliated tournaments.