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SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

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JOHNNY
COOK
CULLMAN CITY COUNCIL
PLACE 3
PD. POL. ADV. BY JOHNNY COOK, 1806 WAYNE AVE NW, CULLMAN, AL 35055

CPD conducts suspected felony traffic stop in response to BOLO from Atlanta

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — On the morning of Aug. 8, 2025, the Cullman Police Department received information regarding a vehicle, including a license plate number, possibly connected to an officer-involved shooting in Atlanta. The vehicle was believed to have passed through the Cullman area.

A Cullman officer located a vehicle matching the description and tag number, from the active all-points bulletin (APB), traveling on Interstate 65. A coordinated felony traffic stop was conducted, and all occupants were safely detained without incident.

After further investigation, it was determined that the vehicle and its occupants were not involved in the Atlanta incident. All individuals were cleared of any suspicion.

The Cullman Police Department extended its appreciation to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Morgan County Sheriff's Office, Falkville » PAGE 3

City receives $500K LWCF grant for East Side Park upgrades



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

East Side Park is seen on Friday, Aug. 8, 2025.

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Gov. Kay Ivey this week announced the City of Cullman has received a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant of $500,000 to provide upgrades at Lions Club Park (now East Side Park) in Cullman.

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson shared at a community forum last month that the City of Cullman is ready to invest $500,000 into renovations for the park as well.

"This grant will enhance recreational opportunities in the city of Cullman by revitalizing older features in the 4.5-acre Lions Club Park while adding popular new amenities," Ivey said.

"I commend Cullman's leaders who realize the importance of recreation and its impact on people of all ages."

Cullman will use the funds to upgrade and renovate the 54-year-old park.

Those improvements include:

- Renovation of the existing baseball/softball complex
- Construction of four pickleball courts
- Installation of a fenced dog park
- Development of a full-sized basketball court
- Replacement of the playground and restrooms
- Construction of new roadside parking

The LWCF is a program of the National Parks Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior. The LWCF program is administered in Alabama by the Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

"This grant will breathe new life into a park that has served the city of Cullman well for more than half a century," ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell said.

"ADECA, along with Gov. Ivey, commends local leaders for this project that will make a great city an even greater place to live, work and play."

Ivey notified Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs that the grant had been approved.

The City of Cullman is providing the required $500,000 match for the park project.

At last month's forum, Anderson said park designers will include public feedback into three possible layouts, which will be presented at a future meeting. In addition to all the renovations, the importance of preserving the park's trees and maintaining its peaceful atmosphere was discussed.

East Side Park is the last of Cullman's neighborhood parks to undergo major renovations as part of the City's ongoing commitment to improving local recreation. Construction is expected to begin once the grant process is finalized.

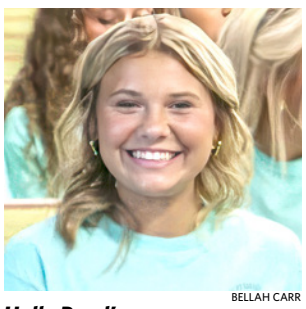
East Side Park is located about half a mile from East Elementary School at 1315 Seventh St. SE.



Extension celebrates newly certified Master Gardeners » PAGE 5

PREP BASEBALL
Addison's Wilkins signs with Bevill State » PAGE 8

'God's in control': Holly Pond's Bellah Carr reflects on her faith

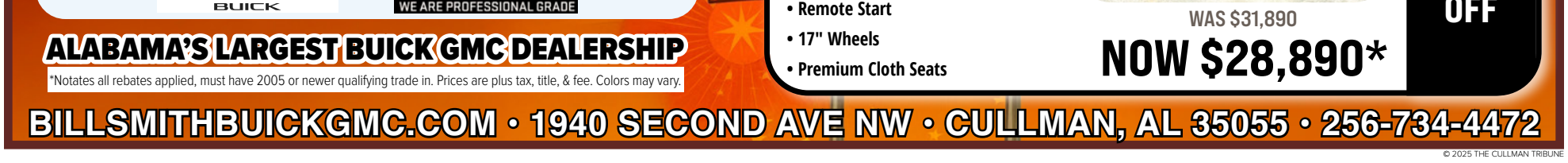


BELLAH CARR

Holly Pond's Bellah Carr » PAGE 7

Wallace State on track for another fall enrollment increase following summer record » PAGE 5





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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Aug. 8

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Aug. 8, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Aug. 4

- domestic violence; CR 1564
- criminal mischief; CR 1139
- theft of property; CR 938
- harassment; CR 1177
- assault; CR 266
- domestic violence; CR 655

Aug. 5

- harassing communications; CR 1194
- domestic violence; CR 998
- possession of drug paraphernalia; US. 31
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 1815
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 518
- domestic violence; CR 1564

Aug. 6

- assault; CR 1660
- domestic violence; CR 1101
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance; possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; Commercial St. NE
- unlawful possession of a controlled substance; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 222
- trespassing; CR 1689
- trespassing; CR 1179
- domestic violence; CR 1660

ARRESTS

Aug. 4-6

Aderhold, William Z.; 45

- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Baker, Stanley A.; 40

- possession of burglars tools
- theft-shoplifting, less than $500

Bennett, Dakota L.; 25

- FTA – driving while license suspended

Cornelius, Zachary L.; 31

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Graham, Asia R.; 34

- possession of drug paraphernalia

Hasenbein, Jeannie L.; 28

- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Hill, Joseph L.; 58

- driving while license suspended, revoked or canceled
- open container in a vehicle

Lee, Stephanie A.; 36

- FTA – theft-miscellaneous theft, $500-less than $1500

Maloney, Adrian R.; 33

- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – assault-aggravated assault-menacing-gun
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – public intoxication
- VIOLATION OR RELEASE – resisting arrest

McKee, Lauren N.; 26

- assault-harassment

Moore, Jessica S.; 43

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – resisting arrest
- FTA – driving without drivers license

Pate, Hollie J.; 46

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Pate, Joey B.; 46

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Pickett, Samuel D.; 56

- FTA – forged instrument
- FTA – counterfeiting

Robbins, Anthony W.; 43

- PROBATION VIOLATION – possessing forged instrument

Smith, Ayden B.; 20

- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Smith, Cameron L.; 36

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – permitting dogs to run at large
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Swann, Jr., Johnny G.; 43

- criminal trespass-1st degree

Vaughn, Donna M.; 55

- driving under the influence of alcohol and/or 0.08 percent or more by weight of alcohol in blood

Whisman, Paul C.; 44

- VIOLATION OF RELEASE ORDER – burglary-residence-no force
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE ORDER – theft-pick-pocket

Winfrey, Leigha S.; 38

- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Aug. 3

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $377; Olive St. SW
- criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damage to '14 Toyota Tundra; $10; Olive St. SW

Aug. 4

- leaving the scene of an accident; person; damage to '13 Cadillac CTS; Main Ave. SW

Aug. 6

- theft of property-3rd degree; person; miscellaneous, cash; Walker St. SW
- leaving the scene of an accident; person; damage to '11 Ford Taurus; 3rd St. SE/1st Ave. SE

Aug. 7

- theft of property-2nd degree; person; cash; $1,500

ARRESTS

Aug. 6-7

Knight, Sr., Brandon; 42

- FTA – driving while revoked
- FTA – driving without license
- FTA – fail to register vehicle
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – violation of noise ordination

Beam, Alisa M.; 54

- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

Andon, Mary J.; 38

- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – driving while suspended

Lee, Stephanie A.; 36

- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – expired tag
- FTA – driving without license

Prestridge, Alyssa R.; 22

- theft of property-4th degree

Bagwell, Dachery D.; 33

- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – driving while revoked (6 counts)
- FTA – insurance violation (3 counts)
- FTA – driving without license (3 counts)
- FTA – fail to register vehicle

Weeks, Shannon L.; 43

- public intoxication

Smith, Katherine G.; 45

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

McAnear, Taylor A.; 30

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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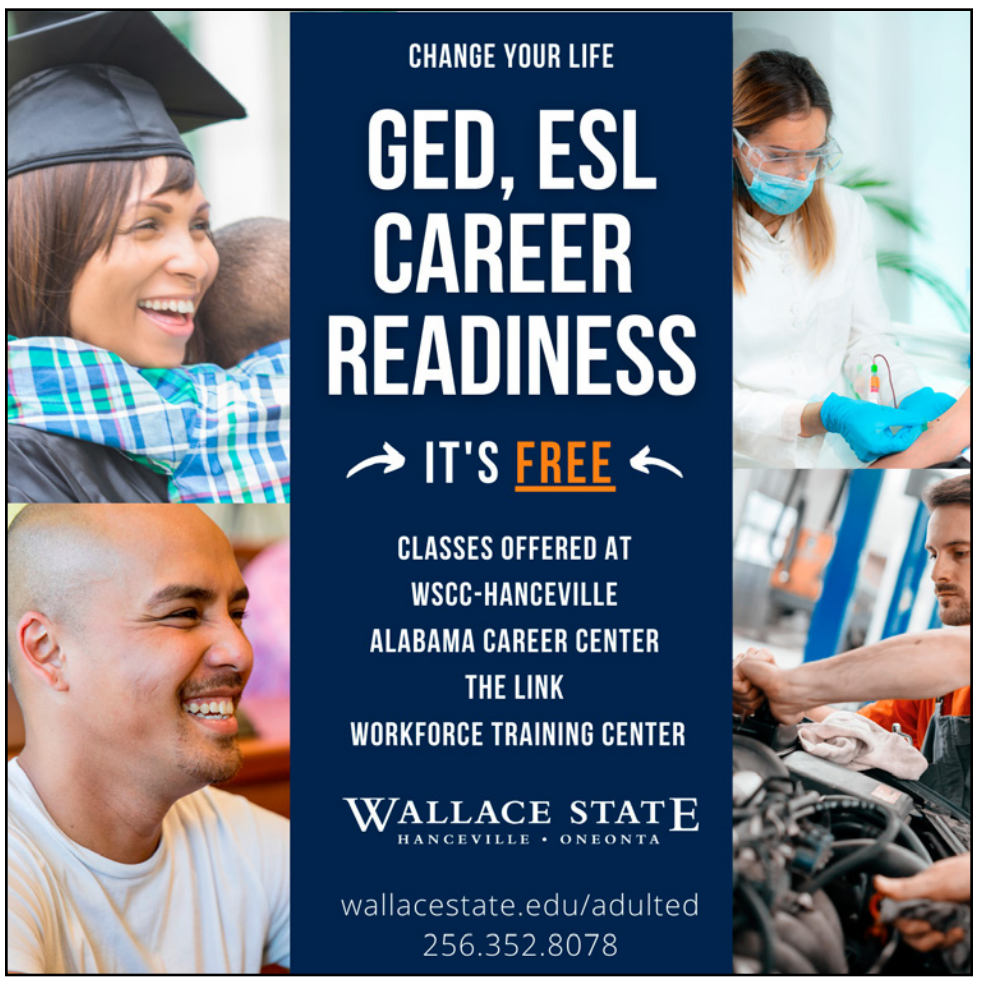
michael richard
256·339·2711
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Cullman County Historical Society Meetings
We meet the fourth Sunday of the month from 2-4 p.m. at the Cullman County Museum. Each meeting features a specific program or speaker. Join us!

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
Sessions on Sundays at 2 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.

Shirley Burden Public Library – Hanceville
• Families are invited to join us for fun at the library! Library is open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5p.m., closed from noon-1 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us on Facebook for weekly event details.
• Wednesday, Aug. 13, 10 a.m. The North Alabama Agriplex will present Everything About Sunflowers.
• Wednesday, Aug. 20, 10 a.m. Local art club will have a craft, along with storytime.
• Wednesday, Aug. 27, 10 a.m. Storytime, plus book club will start back, and the summer reading program contest comes to an end.
• Friday, Aug. 29, 6 p.m. Poetry Night

North Alabama Agriplex Programs
• www.agriplex.org
• Wednesday, Aug. 13, noon-1 p.m., Lunch and Learn - Easy Herbs. Join Mae Jefferson and learn about easy herbs to grow, how to preserve them, and use around the kitchen or even a home medicine cabinet. $10, includes lunch.
• Thursday, Aug. 14, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Elementary - Cool as a Cucumber. From cosmetic to culinary, to tiny gherkins and long English, come learn about one of our garden favorites! $15/person, max $30/family.
• Thursday, Aug. 14, noon-2 p.m., Heritage Homeschool Secondary - All the Ologies - Geology. The Cook Museum of Natural Science is here to help us explore the fascinating world of the Earth's materials, including formation, identification, and significance of rocks and minerals. Pan for your own gems to take home. $15/student.
• Friday, Aug. 15, 10-11 a.m., Little Farmers - Armadillo Rodeo. Jan Brett is a renowned author illustrator whose books have been loved by many for decades. Each month, we will center our storytime, stations, craft, and snack around a different Jan Brett book. $8/child, max $16/family.
• Thursday, Aug. 21, 6 p.m., Military Veteran & Beginning Farmer - FALL and WINTER GRAZING OPTIONS FOR CATTLE, SHEEP AND GOATS. Managing your pastures for maximum fall grazing.
• Saturday, Aug. 23, 9-10:30 a.m., Farm Kids Club - Honey Harvest. It's our second year of harvesting honey from the Agriplex Apiary and you're invited! Master Beekeeper Bill Grimmett will be here to show us how it's done. $15/child, max $30/family.
• Thursday, Aug. 26, 6-8 p.m., Living Landscapes - Growing Fall Vegetables. Now is the time to start fall vegetables! Join Extension Agent Holt Akers-Campbell as he teaches best practices for fall crops for home gardeners. Free fall seeds. $15/person.
• Thursday, Aug. 28, 6-8 p.m., Heritage Skills - Humming Bird Gourd House. Who knew you could make a hummingbird house from a gourd? Come use your creativity as Katie Westmoreland teaches us how to make, paint, and decorate our new little house. Youth, ages 12 to15 are welcome and must register and be accompanied with a paid registered adult. $35/person.
• Wednesday, Sept. 3, noon-1 p.m., Lunch and Learn - Wildlife Damage Management Around the Home & Garden. This program will provide a great opportunity for home and garden owners to gain a better understanding of common wildlife pests and their controls. Laws and regulations, damage identification, and considerations and techniques to reduce and prevent wildlife damage will be covered in detail. $10, includes lunch.
• Thursday, Sept. 4, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Elementary - Fun with Fossils. Uncover the mysteries of the past by learning how fossils are formed, how to identify different species, and more! $15 fee, max $30/family.
• Thursday, Sept. 4, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Secondary - All the Ologies - Paleontology. Dive into the study of fossils! We'll discuss excavation, identification, and get an up close look at an extensive collection of specimens. $15/student, max $30/family.
• Thursdays, Sept. 4, 6-8 p.m., Heritage Skills - Crocheting. Come learn the basics of crocheting as we make our very own scarf. Register early so you have time to pick your favorite colors! Youth, ages 12 to15 are welcome and must register and be accompanied with a paid registered adult. $25/person.
• Fri, Sept. 5, 10-11 a.m., Little Farmers - Cinder. Jan Brett is a renowned author illustrator whose books have been loved by many for decades. Each month, we will center our storytime, stations, craft, and snack around a different Jan Brett book. $8/child, max $16/family.
• Sat, Sept. 6, 9-10:30a.m., Farm Kids Club - County Fair Crafts. We'll complete an assortment of crafts worthy of submission to the Cullman County Fair. $20/person.
• Thursdays, Sept. 11, 6 p.m., Military Veteran & Beginning Farmer - Beekeeping for Beginners. This introduction to beekeeping will feature an Alabama Extension Agent and local, experienced beekeepers who will discuss the basics of keeping bees for both fun and profit with Allyson Shabel. At the Extension office.
• Tues, Sept. 30, 6 p.m., Living Landscapes - Raising Backyard Poultry: Keeping chickens, ducks, quail, guineas, and turkeys. Interested in raising chickens or other backyard poultry? Learn which bird is for you and the best practices for keeping these animals for eggs, meat, or bug control. $15/person.

Annual Sinyard Family Reunion
Saturday, Aug. 9, at 10 a.m., at the Moody Center in Hanceville. There will be a covered dish lunch at noon. For more details, call Chairman Allen Jennings at 256-735-6448.

Cullman Chapter of the National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, April 11, at noon at the Golden Corral Restaurant. A Dutch lunch begins shortly after 11 a.m. For our program we have Tracie Johnson, who is licensed and insured and offers personal assistant services. Members are encouraged to attend and bring a guest.

Heartland Quilt Guild
Thursday, Aug. 14, at 6 p.m. at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr. in Cullman.

Fairview Class of 1965 Class Reunion
Saturday, Aug. 16, at 10 a.m. at the Gold Ridge Community Center. For more info, contact Judy Robertson at 256-385-1755.

Holly Pond Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, Aug. 23, at the Holly Pond Lions Club Building from 6-9 a.m. Enjoy pancakes, bacon, sausage and coffee, eat-in or take-out, for a donation. The proceeds will benefit the Holly Pond Lions Club project fund and the food pantry located between town hall and the fire department. Come join us! Thank you in advance for your support.

Christmas in September Sale
The Sacred Heart Altar Society and Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Church in Cullman are having their "Christmas in September" sale on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 7 a.m. until and after each mass on Sunday, Sept. 6, in the church Family Life Center. The sale is to benefit St. Vincent de Paul Society in Cullman. Gently used decorations from all holiday seasons will be for sale.

Stop (from Front)

Police Department and the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) for their assistance during the operation. The department said it remains committed to working closely with partner agencies to ensure public safety.

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CAMILLE GIBBS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Minecraft Nerds Unite! club had its open house meeting at the Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville Aug. 6, 2025.

Minecraft Nerds Unite!

Camille Gibbs
camille@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Minecraft Nerds Unite! club had its open house meeting at the Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville Aug. 6.

The private club offers technology-free, hands-on, educational fun for homeschool students (ages 6-12) who love Minecraft, with a theme from the game at each monthly meeting. Meetings start with show-and-tell and snacks. Members participate in individual and group activities and leave with a Minecraft take-home challenge. The club throws parties for Halloween, the end of the club year and Valentine's Day.

Amber Dover founded the club after playing Minecraft with her children. Minimal volunteering from guardians, contributing to holiday parties and joining the Facebook group for event planning is required to be in the group. Children can share their Minecraft builds on the club's page.

Find the group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/minecraft-nerdsunitehomeschoolclub.

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Wallace State on track for another fall enrollment increase following summer record

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College struck another enrollment milestone, marking a 10-year high for the summer term with 3,100 students registered for the summer 2025 semester, and is on pace to set another record this fall following an Aspen Rising Star Designation which places Wallace State among the Top 3 community colleges in the nation.

"We are extremely pleased with the increase in enrollment and honored to serve our communities and the students who entrust us with their time and investment in education," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics. "We are steadfastly committed to providing the very best educational opportunities for our students and our region."

Since 2016, summer enrollment has fluctuated from around 2,500 to nearly 3,000 but since the 2012 recession never passed the 3,000 mark until this semester. This semester marks the third consecutive semester increase. Fall 2024 and spring 2025 enrollment also set 10-year records.

The uptick in enrollment is a testament to Wallace State's reputation and its partnerships in dual enrollment, university transfer and workforce.

Recent additions to program offerings include Hotel and Restaurant Management, Nutrition Management, Digital Fabrication, Revenue and Database Management in Health Information, and Artificial Intelligence Programming, Cloud Computing and Systems Engineering Technology. A Speech and Language Pathology Assistant program will begin as soon as spring semester, extending Wallace State's reputation as the state's premier provider of two-year health science education.

Registration for the fall 2025 semester is underway, with classes beginning on Aug. 19 for regular and Mini Term I and Oct. 16 for Mini Term II. Registration and classes begin Aug. 26 for Flex Start Term I and Sept. 2 for Flex Start Term II. For more information, visit www.wallacestate.edu or call Lion Central at 256-352-8236.

For more information, visit www.wallacestate.edu, call Lion Central at 256-352-8236 or come by the Hancevville or Oneonta campus centers. Current and incoming students may schedule an advising session with the Center for Student Success at www.wallacestate.edu/advising.

Gardeners (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — On July 31, the Cullman County Extension Office celebrated the achievements of its 2024 Master Gardener Intern class, marking the end of a year-long journey to certification. Twelve interns officially traded in their temporary badges for the permanent title of Alabama Extension Master Gardener. To earn the title, participants completed a 13-week training course last fall, all while logging at least 50 hours of volunteer service in horticulture projects across the community.

"A certified Master Gardener is a volunteer for Alabama Extension with training in horticulture topics and the opportunity to share that information with the public through educational outreach," explained Cullman County Extension Director Dr. Kira Sims. "The training course and volunteer hours are completed within one year of starting the course. After full completion, we celebrate the journey and bestow on the intern the title of certified Alabama Extension Master Gardener volunteer and their official name tag."

The graduation ceremony was a meaningful milestone for many, including newly certified volunteer BJ Morgan, who described the accomplishment as a "20-year dream." Sims said hearing stories like Morgan's is one of the most rewarding parts of her job.

"It is such a joy to teach the Extension Master Gardener training because these folks have such an interest in learning more about plants," Sims said.

"Many of the participants have waited years, like BJ, to participate because work or life duties previously hindered them. This desire to learn is inspiring — not only to learn, but to take that knowledge and give back to the community through service."

In addition to celebrating those who earned their new titles, the Extension Office welcomed its latest group of interns — the 2025 Master Gardener training class.

This class will follow the same journey as the 2024 cohort, with hopes of one day earning their permanent titles as well.

"A new class always brings enthusiasm, but they also bring so many different life experiences to the table. Each class is so different — what plants they like, what they did professionally, where they live or are from — so to get to know each class is fun," she added.



KIRA SIMS

The 2024 Master Gardener Intern class receives their official certification and permanent title of Alabama Extension Master Gardener.

"Anyone interested in joining the next training should reach out to the Cullman County Extension office so we can add them to the interest list and stay tuned for information next June to register."

The Cullman County Extension Office typically hosts a Master Gardener training class each fall. For more information, contact Dr. Kira Sims at kira.sims@auburn.edu or call the Extension office at 256-737-9386.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 9, 2025

PREP FOOTBALL

Broncos ready to ride back onto the field this fall

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. – Football season is approaching once again, and the Holly Pond Broncos have been preparing all summer to get back on the field and build on a solid 2024 season. The Broncos will have experience returning on both sides of the ball and Head Coach Will McDaniel is looking forward to watching this team develop after a very productive offseason.

"We probably have seven or eight different guys that start on either side of the ball returning. We lost a big senior group, but we played a lot of young guys at times last year. We'll have a ninth-grade quarterback, and he started a game at safety last year as an eighth grader, so he has a little bit of game experience," McDaniel said. "We've got six seniors this year and five of them have a ton of game experience over their careers so we're not as senior led as we were last year but we've got a lot of good youth coming up and those guys have put in a lot of work this summer at playdates and 7-on-7 competitions and OTAs and all those things we've done over the last couple weeks."

McDaniel and his staff didn't have much time for installation before kicking things off last season, but they've had a full offseason to prepare this time around and they've been working on ways to put their players in good situations.

"We are a lot further along right now than we were 365 days ago. I got hired in the middle of June last year, so we didn't really get to install anything last year until July. Then we were able to go out and score 324 points last season which is the second most in school history and that was really with us basically starting in July. So, I think we're a lot further along," McDaniel said. "That doesn't mean we'll replicate 324 points but we're able to do a lot more right now even with a ninth grader at quarterback and with skill guys that we've replaced just from being in the system for a year. It'd be nice to run for about 300 yards per game this year instead of 275. That would help him out a lot but we're going to try to put him in positions to have the best chance of success and not put the game on his back."

Holly Pond put together an explosive season offensively in 2024 but with a new quarterback set to take the reins and some new faces at the skill positions, McDaniel is eager to see how some new players step into those roles.

"We replace Sawyer Olinger who was our do everything quarterback last year. He accounted for 180 of those 324 points last year so obviously you have to replace guys like him and we're not going to ask our ninth-grade quarterback to account for those types of numbers. We lost Brody Howard and Zayne Faulkner in the backfield as well so we're having to replace most all of our backfield outside of Boston Gibbs. He was a 1,000-yard rusher and accounted for 100 points and he's back but most all of our offensive skill positions we'll be replacing."

Holly Pond will have some familiar faces with game experience returning on the defensive side of the ball and after a summer full of competition, McDaniel is excited to see how they fair under the lights this season.

"Defensively we played a lot more bodies throughout the year. So, we played a ton of people defensively all the way through so we probably have more experience on that side of the ball even though some of them will probably play some different spots than they did last year," McDaniel said.

"So, thankfully with all the things we do in the summer with competitions, you get to throw people out there in 7-on-7 or 11-on-11 situations and see what happens. Even though it's not padded football, you get to see how they react to the heat and the competition."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Holly Pond Broncos will kick off the 2025 season at Appalachian on Aug. 22.

Football Schedule (3A, Region 8)

- • Aug. 22 – at Appalachian
- Aug. 29 – at Hanceville
- Sept. 5 – Sylvania*
- Sept. 12 – at Brindlee Mountain*
- Sept. 19 – Geraldine*
- Oct. 3 – at Whitesburg Christian*
- Oct. 9 – Asbury*
- Oct. 17 – Fyffe*
- Oct. 24 – at Collinsville*
- Oct. 31 – Cleveland

*Region Game

PREP FOOTBALL

Hanceville hungry for playoff push in 2025

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Another football season is right around the corner and that means it's almost time for the Hanceville Bulldogs to hit the field once again. The Bulldogs came up short of some of their goals a season ago but with experience returning on both sides of the ball and some new faces stepping up this offseason, Head Coach Levi Estes is excited to see what his team can do this fall.

"Looking at the roster from last year, we have about four of five starters returning on offense and then defensively we'll have about four or five back as well and a lot of those guys are playing both ways.

"We've picked up some new faces this year whether they were walking around the school or they've moved in so I'm excited about those guys that we've picked up and the guys we have returning," Estes said.

"A lot of our guys have a lot of experience from last year. We played a lot of young guys last year and game experience is one of the most important things you can have as a football player to see the actual speed of the game on Friday nights.

"Just looking back on the summer, we went three days a week in June and four days a week in July and these guys have been there every day busting their tails and doing the right things to get ready.

"We've brought in some new coaches that have changed some of the schemes up and done a really good job of coaching these guys up and making it easy for them to understand and learn and play as fast as they can."

The area that Estes and his staff are most focused on right now is the line of scrimmage. The Bulldogs will have a couple seniors to lean on up front but are looking for some younger players to step into some of those spots as well.

"Right now, our biggest leap to take is on the offensive line up front. We've got two seniors up there and neither of those guys were part of our team last year. So, having those guys there is going to be good for us," Estes said. "We've also got a bunch of young guys that are battling for spots up front as well so we're looking at playing some freshmen with a couple seniors and not having a lot of experience so that can be a little worrisome but at the same time those guys have worked hard, and they work together really well. They play together and they have each other's backs so that's something we're really focusing on is getting them ready for Friday nights."

One place that Hanceville will have some familiar faces returning this season is at the skill positions. He's looking forward to seeing those guys continue to develop but he's been even more impressed with the way they've taken on leadership roles this offseason.

"Some things that I look at that are really bright spots is a lot of our skill positions on offense and defense are returning. Hunter Black is a two-year starter returning this year and you've got Drake Bentley and Javis (Leusby) and all these guys have started. Those are guys that we're going to lean on when we have the ball and also to stop the other team," Estes said. "We're going to be young up front on both sides of the ball but at the same time with Jacob Jordan being a senior, he hasn't missed a day all summer and he's worked his tail off every day that he's been there. He's kind of the anchor of that group and he holds people accountable and does a good job of it. That's what you have to have in your older group, they have to hold people accountable, but they also have to be accountable in what they do and all these guys show those qualities."



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Hanceville Bulldogs will kick off the 2025 season at Cold Springs on Aug. 21.

2025 Hanceville Football Schedule (3A, Region 5)

- Aug. 21 – at Cold Springs
- Aug. 29 – Holly Pond
- Sept. 5 – Gordo*
- Sept. 12 – Carbon Hill*
- Sept. 19 – at Oakman*
- Oct. 3 – Vinemont*
- Oct. 10 – at Midfield*
- Oct. 17 – Winfield*
- Oct. 24 – at Phil Campbell*
- Oct. 30 – Oak Grove

*Region Game

FAITH

‘God’s in control’: Holly Pond’s Bellah Carr reflects on her faith

Sammy Confer
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HOLLY POND, Ala. — Holly Pond High School’s Bellah Carr is about to start her junior year, and in this interview, she discusses her relationship with God, starting with a Bible verse that has completely changed her life.

”God means everything to me. I go to church on Sunday and Wednesday, and I also do Bible studies with my cousin. God has changed my life little by little, things like making my day better or just by seeing what I didn’t see in people before. That has made me a better person,” Carr said. ”John 14:27 is a Bible verse where Jesus tells His disciples, ‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid’. It’s only interpreted as a message of comfort and reassurance.”

Bellah wants to make sure that everyone finds God, no matter their age, and being a role model for kids is important to her.

She has her fair share of Godly role models that she feels blessed to have in her life.

”It’s very important, no matter what age they are, because everybody, no matter what age they are, should have a chance to know God,” Carr said.

”Being a role model for kids is super important. You can really shape how they see the world and what they think is possible. My Godly role models are my parents and my friends from New Hope #2. They mean the world. I love them all so much.”

She took part in a church camp that changed so many lives and hearing their stories helped her out so much.

”We had a church camp this summer at New Hope, and we had a serving project every day. One day, we were helping people clean up the yards that couldn’t do it, and the next day, we were in Wal-Mart, giving tracks to people and spreading the gospel. Some people would take it, and you could just see how much their lives change in that moment.

”It was just the most amazing, joyful feeling ever, and it also helps you too. It gives you this joy that you’ve never felt before. It’s just remarkable what God can do in just five minutes.

”We heard so many people’s testimonies. Hearing how they overcame things in their life helped me realize that I can overcome the little things, because other people overcame really big things in their life.”

Bellah shared some advice with anyone that is struggling when it comes to having a relationship with God.

”My advice to them would be to not let yourself make excuses for not reading the Bible. The more you read the Bible, the closer you get. The closer you get, the more you want to read, and the more you want to read, the stronger your relationship gets with Him,” she said.

”I listen to worship music while I’m cleaning my room or doing schoolwork. I also love to pray throughout the day. What I’ve learned is that you can’t be in control. God’s in control, and that you can’t have one foot in sin and the other being a Godly person. You have to choose between worldly things or Godly things.”



BELLAH CARR

Holly Pond’s Bellah Carr

FAITH

‘I believe everyone needs to put their faith in Him’: Hanceville’s Miley Bales discusses relationship with God

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Hanceville High School’s Miley Bales will be a senior this school year, and in this interview, she discussed her relationship with God, starting with how much the passing of Rodney Buckelew impacted her and the entire Hanceville community.

”God means everything to me. My faith guides my decisions and my personal well-being. God is my guide and has led me out of tough situations. After a hard couple of months after the passing of Rodney Buckelew, who was not only my mentor, but friend of mine, I leaned on God through that tough time. I needed a lot of strength and guidance to create my service initiative in memory of Rodney.

”Not only did I do this for Rodney, but I also did this for the students in the band in need. I have a servant’s heart, and I want to help others in any way I can. I’m so thankful for all the opportunities that God has given me, and I give Him all of the glory. I always pray and put my faith in Him before I take the field at halftime,” Bales said. ”He has changed my life by always giving me a sense of comfort and picking me back up when I fall. I always know that I’m never alone and that He’s watching over me and protecting me.”

Miley mentioned a couple of her favorite Bible verses and being a role model for younger kids is very important to her.

”My first Bible verse that I love is Mark 9:23: ‘If you can,’ said Jesus. ‘Everything is possible for one who believes’. This means a lot to me, because whatever I’m going through, I remind myself, because if I have Him, I can do anything. Another one is Psalms 34:18: ‘The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit’. This is also important to me, because whenever I’m struggling, I know that He is close to me and can help me through it,” Bales said. ”It’s important, because no matter your age, everyone is a child of God, and I believe everyone needs to put their faith in Him. Whenever I was younger, I always looked up to the older twirlers, and I wanted to be just like them. As I got older, I remembered this and strived to be the one that younger kids look up to.”

Miley has a long list of Godly role models that she looks up to, and her fair queen platform is something that she takes very seriously. She talked about her service initiative, Marching Forward.

”I’m a pastor’s kid, so throughout my life, I’ve encountered many Godly role models through my parents. They’ve helped guide me in every step in my life and helped me better my faith,” she said.

”My fair queen platform is very close to my heart, because it’s more than just a service initiative. It’s something I want to continue for years to come. Marching Forward is to not only impact the Hanceville community, but I want to spread this farther throughout the county and help benefit other band students. Rodney’s family has helped and supported me a lot, and it means just as much to them as it does to me. It’s on its way to becoming a non-profit organization under the name Marching Forward Legacy Inc. Here’s the mission statement: ‘Marching Forward Legacy Inc. was created to honor and continue the legacy of Rodney Buckelew, a humble leader whose hard work and unwavering support touched countless lives. We envision a world where every student, regardless of background or financial means, has the opportunity to participate in marching band, and experience the transformative power of music, mentorship, and community. Our mission is to break financial barriers through sponsorships, scholarships, and fundraisers ensuring that no student is denied life-changing opportunities, a chance to build confidence, form lasting friendships, and feel supported. Through this work, we are marching forward with Rodney Buckelew’s spirit, building a legacy of inclusion, leadership, and hope that will enrich lives for generations to come.’”

Miley gave some advice to anyone that wants a relationship with God but might be struggling with that process. She has learned a lot during her own journey so far.

”I would say that they’re not alone and that God is with you and is waiting for you with open arms, no matter your background or history,” she said. ”Before we go perform, the band always prays. The majorettes do a separate prayer also. This is something that is very important to me, and something that I make sure we do. For my daily ritual, I always pray before I go to sleep and when I wake up. I also keep a Scripture on my phone lock screen. One thing I’ve learned through my journey is to always be kind, because you never know what someone is going through. I’ve also learned how to better appreciate life, because we’re never guaranteed another moment, so we should live our life by praying for others, being an example of Christ, and to do the things you love and enjoy. Spending time with family and friends is important to me due to that reason.”



MILEY BALES

Hanceville’s Miley Bales

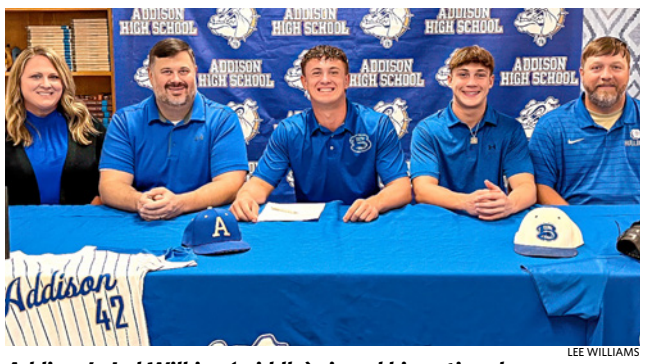






Wilkins (from Front)

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com



LEE WILLIAMS

Addison's Jed Wilkins (middle) signed his national letter of intent to play at Bevill State on Tuesday.

ADDISON, Ala. — Tuesday was a special day at Addison High School. Friends, family and coaches gathered to celebrate one Bulldog standout taking the next step in their athletic career. After putting together a phenomenal senior season that included 1A Hitter of the Year and First-Team All-State honors, Jed Wilkins signed a national letter of intent to continue his playing career at Bevill State on Tuesday. During his senior season, Wilkins batted .500, racked up 60 hits and 34 RBIs, recorded 15 doubles and six home runs.

Addison Head Baseball Coach Lee Williams was proud of Wilkins for earning the opportunity at Bevill State and is looking forward to watching him play at the next level.

"Jed is an amazing athlete that overcame an ACL injury as a junior to having an amazing season last year to help lead our team to the Semifinals for only the second time in history," Williams said.

"He has an incredible work ethic and is one of the most talented players I have ever seen and coached. I'm proud to have had the opportunity to Coach him but most importantly to get to be a small part of seeing him live out his dream of playing college baseball. Well-deserved and can't wait to see him excel at the next level."

Wilkins liked what he saw when he watched Bevill play, and he's already started preparing so that he can contribute to the team when he arrives.

"Bevill first caught my eye with how their baseball team improved throughout the season. When I watched them play, they seemed to have a common goal, a great bond, and played with energy," Wilkins said. "Currently, I am trying to work hard on being physically and mentally ready for this next level of baseball."

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Wallace State Community College is an equal opportunity employer (EOE).

Obituary Announcements: Aug. 7-8

Kenneth Wayne Smitherman, 81
Kenneth Wayne Smitherman, 81, of Hanceville passed away on August 6, 2025, at Woodland Village Nursing Home. There are no services planned at this time.Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family.Mr. Smitherman was born on February 11, 1944, to parents, Henry and Annie Leach Smitherman of Bessemer, Al. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He retired from Silgan Containers of Birmingham. Kenneth enjoyed hunting and fishing and was an avid gardener. He was a former member of Elm Bluff Hunting Club in Selma, Alabama. He will be greatly missed.Mr. Smitherman was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Curtis and Donald; sisters, Annette, Dorthy and Margaret.He is survived by his wife Catherine LaRussa Smitherman; daughters, Shelly (Kerry) Stallings and Leigh Ann (Tracy) McKay; grandsons, Ricky (Misty) Black, Cody (Britany) Black, Teague (Ace) McKay; great-grandsons, Blake and Christian Black; sister, Pat (Jim) Pendergrass; and a host of family and friends.To send a flower arrangement in memory of Kenneth Wayne Smitherman.

Dionicio Jesus Espinal, Jr., 45
In Loving Memory of Jonito Espinal | July 30, 1980 – August 5, 2025 | A funeral mass for Dionicio Jesus Espinal Jr. will be 11 a.m. Saturday August 9th at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. Burial will follow the service at Sacred Heart cemetery. Visitation will be Friday August 8th from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m., with Rosary beginning at 6 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Jonito was a devoted son, beloved brother, cherished uncle, and loyal friend to many. Born with a joyful spirit and a heart full of kindness, he brought light and laughter wherever he went. A man of deep faith, Jonito dedicated his life to serving within the Catholic Church. He lived out his calling with humility, compassion, and a quiet strength that inspired everyone around him. His humanitarian heart led him to go above and beyond for family and friends—always ready to help at a moment's notice. Though kind-hearted, Jonito possessed a strong character and a legendary streak of stubbornness—qualities that made him uniquely him and only deepened the love others had for him. His convictions were firm, his loyalty unwavering, and his presence unforgettable. To his parents -he was a faithful right hand—always ensuring their needs were met with care and love. As the youngest sibling, Jonito filled the family with laughter, often playing the role of the family comedian. Behind the jokes, however, was a deeply thoughtful and loving brother who noticed the small things and quietly made life easier for everyone. He shared a special bond with Josi—always there without being asked, always anticipating her needs. Though the youngest, he embraced the role of protector to both Nori and Josy, making sure they were cared for in every possible way. He was their guardian angel on earth, and now he continues that role from heaven. Jonito took his role as an uncle with much pride. He not only was a great uncle but was more of a older brother to his first nephew Fralis. He was someone Fralis looked up to and knew he could count on. When his first Neice was born he loved her as his own. Their weekends were filled with adventure and late nights full of laughter. He was always one phone call away. Jonito cherished every moment spent with all his nieces and nephews, embracing his role as their devoted uncle. He loved watching them grow, being involved in their activities, and creating memories that will forever be held close to their hearts. Jonito lived with quiet resilience and a warrior's heart. He fought courageously, clinging to his faith and inner strength until his very last breath. He will be deeply missed, but his legacy of love, faith, joy, strength—and yes, that legendary stubbornness—will live on in all of us. His presence may no longer be seen, but it will forever be felt—in every laugh, every act of kindness, and every cherished memory. "Nada es para siempre, ni la salud, ni el dinero, mucho menos la vida. Todo es pasajero así que disfruta lo poco o lo mucho que tienes." — Josy Espinal

Stephanie Johnna Ratliff, 57
A memorial service for Stephanie Ratliff, 57, of Holly Pond will be 2 p.m. Monday, August 11, at Hanceville Funeral Home chapel. Ms. Ratiff was born June 15, 1968, in Madison County, Alabama. She passed away August 3, 2025, in Madison County, Alabama. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Ratliff family.

Mildred Virginia Gordon, 86
Funeral services for Mildred Virginia Gordon, 86, of Hanceville, will be at 2 p.m., Monday August 11, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel, Rev. Eric Hixon and Ronnie Nolen officiating, with interment in Bethlehem East Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 12-2 p.m. before the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Gordon was born on December 16, 1938, to Wilton Adam and Verdie Lee Harvell Nolen. She was a loving mother and grandmother, and a wonderful sister. Mildred was the protector of her family, very outgoing and a natural caregiver. She loved working outside and was a hard worker. She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Welton "Doffus" Nolen; sisters, Doris Clark and Kathy Green. Survivors include her son, Anthony Gordon; brothers, Bobby (Ann) Nolen, Ronnie (Donna) Nolen, Donald Ray Nolen; sister, Berdie Lee (Sonny) Hixon; grandson, Tyler Gordon; and a host of family and friends. Pallbearers will be Bobby Nolen, Ronnie Nolen, Donald Nolen, Lance Nolen, David Woodard and D.J. Woodard.

Darrel 'Bruce' Runge, 65
Darrel "Bruce" Runge was called to heaven the morning of Wednesday, August 6, 2025. He was born on February 4, 1960, to Odis and Eura Mae Runge. Bruce was a devoted and loving husband as well as a protective and caring father, son, brother, uncle, and friend. Nothing made him more proud than the moments he spent as daddy to his two children and as PawPaw to his seven grandchildren. He provided a lifetime of memories to those around him thanks to his big personality, charismatic storytelling, and quick-witted sense of humor. He was truly full of life and could always be counted on to drop a clever joke at a moment's notice. A few of his passions and hobbies included a love for Alabama Football - which he closely shared with his wife, son and daughter, working on the farm and piddling with his equipment, starting new projects or building things for others, and visiting with his family and friends. He was the epitome of a "master of all trades" as there was nothing he couldn't build or fix no matter the tool or the challenge in front of him. He exemplified the strong work ethic, good character, determination, and respect that he taught his children. Bruce was a one-of-a-kind and will be so very missed by his loved ones. Bruce is survived by his wife, Teresa, of forty-one year; son, David (Megan) Runge, daughter, Leah (Kyle) Waldrop; grandchildren, Archer, Isaac, Jonah, Nolan, Abel, Abigail and Elijah; brothers, Bobby (Brenda) Runge, Ferrell (Shelia) Runge, James Runge, and David (Mindy) Runge; sisters, Deborah (Dan) Hix and Tammy (Steve) Corley; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Odis and Eura Mae Runge. Family and friends are welcome to attend Bruce's Celebration of Life Service being held at the Vinemont Scout House on Saturday, August 16, starting at 2 p.m.

Brenda Gail Tolliver Michael, 84
Brenda Gail Tolliver Michael, 84, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away peacefully on July 20, 2025. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Mark Michael; her children, Marc Michael (Brigid), Sean Michael (Kristy), and Elizabeth Wheeler (John); her beloved grandchildren, Grant Michael, Makayla Michael, Scarlett Wheeler, and Gabby Wheeler; her brother, Mike Tolliver (Nancy); and their son, Matthew Tolliver (Melissa). She is also survived by many dear nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Allene and Clyde Tolliver of Florence, Alabama. Gail loved dogs, and was especially fond of her 12-year-old Maltipoo, Bubba Jack. True to form, Bubba was right by her side on the night she passed. Born and raised in Florence, Gail graduated from Coffee High School in 1959 and earned her bachelor's degree from the University of North Alabama in 1964. A gifted student with a sharp intellect, Gail later earned a master's degree in counseling—laying the foundation for a life devoted to education and service. Reading was Gail's favorite pastime. She read thousands of books over the course of her life and was rarely seen without a novel in hand. Gail began her career as a high school English teacher, but found her true calling as a guidance counselor. At Cullman High School, "Mrs. Michael" touched the lives of countless students with her warmth, insight, and unwavering support. Whether helping students navigate college decisions, career paths, or personal challenges, Gail listened with patience and spoke with care. Her calm, approachable demeanor made her a safe haven for students in crisis—whether they were dealing with broken homes, unplanned pregnancies, or simply struggling to stay in school. She helped many young people find a path forward when they thought they had none. Gail had a quiet strength and deep empathy that defined her interactions with others. She was a wonderful listener, and her wise counsel made a lasting impact on generations of students and families. Above all, Gail was a loving mother and grandmother. She took immense pride in her children—Marc, a CEO; Sean, a writer; and Elizabeth, a physician—and celebrated their unique journeys with boundless encouragement. After retirement, Gail divided her time between homes in Cullman and the Florence area. She had a spirit for adventure, traveling often to visit her children and grandchildren. From Czechoslovakia to England, Germany, and the Pacific Northwest, she was always eager to hop on a plane and explore the world with the people she loved. When asked to name the greatest lesson she had learned in life, Gail didn't hesitate. "All those worries you have—about what somebody thinks about what you're doing, or what you're wearing, or how much money you have, or what kind of car you drive—are so useless," she said. "You're worrying about the wrong thing. What's important is centering your thoughts and asking the right questions to find out how you can help the other person." Gail spent her life doing just that. She helped not only her own family, but also thousands of other people with quiet strength and an open heart. Her legacy is one of selflessness, grace, and deep compassion. A celebration of Gail's life will be held on Sunday, August 17, 2025, at 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. at Loft 212, 212 Second Ave. NE, Cullman, AL 35055. A short service will begin at 5:15 p.m. All who knew and loved her are welcome to attend and share in her memory. Casual attire and bright colors are welcome. In lieu of flowers, the family invites donations to a fund in Gail's memory benefiting Cullman High School, where she served so faithfully. Contributions will support the installation of a memorial bench on campus and the establishment of an annual scholarship for a deserving CHS student. To contribute, please visit: https://www.gofundme.com/f/a-lasting-tribute-to-gail-michael-bench-and-scholarship.

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

Cullman Marble & Granite Co.
"Memorials of Quality Since 1910" 734-2353

Free Obituary Listings

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

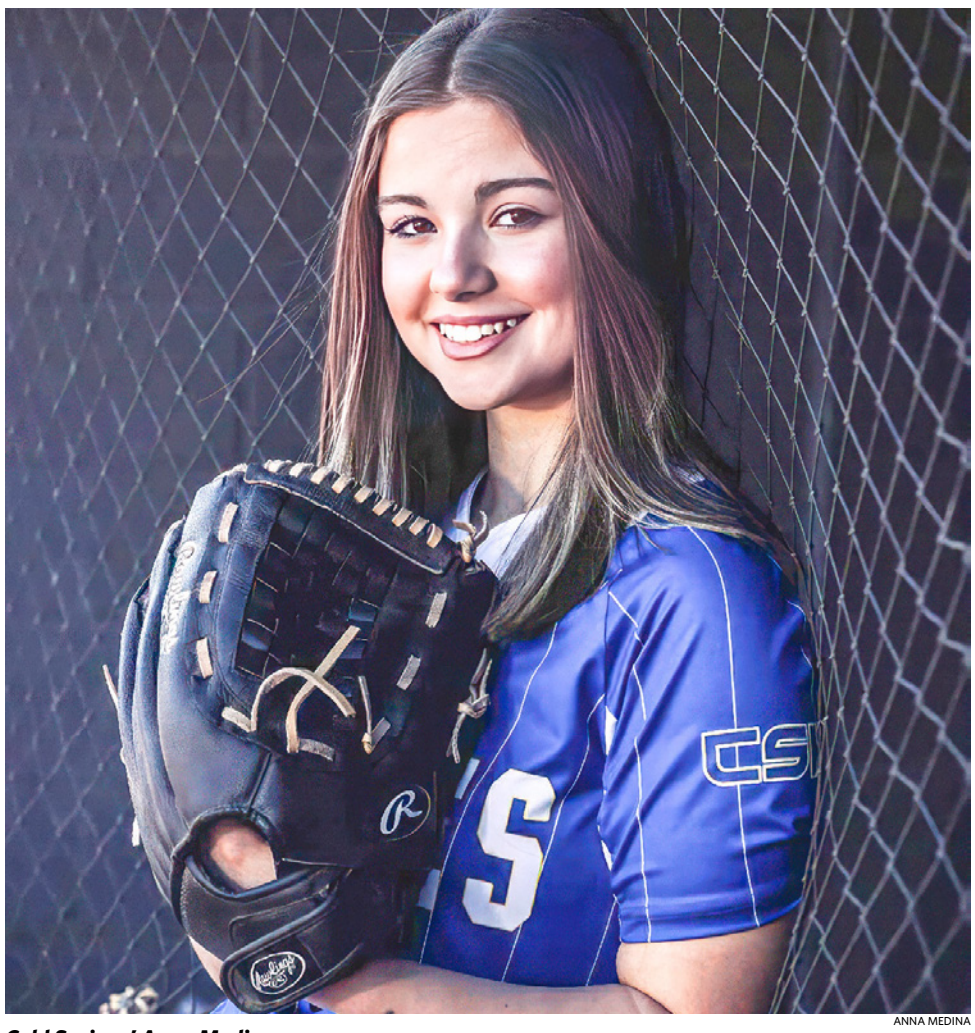
Email: office@cullmantribune.com

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

FAITH

‘He loves you unconditionally’: Cold Springs’ Anna Medina discusses relationship with God

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com



ANNA MEDINA

Cold Springs’ Anna Medina

BREMEN, Ala. — Cold Springs High School’s Anna Medina is preparing to start junior year, and in this interview, she discusses her faith, starting with her decision to get baptized.

”God has meant more to me than I can even put into words. Honestly, the way He has suffocated me with joy and just so many levels of peace and comfort is so indescribable. It’s something that every human deserves to feel, and I wouldn’t have the kindness and compassion that I have if it weren’t for Him and His glory,” Medina said. ”He has changed my life so much. I didn’t grow up with a strong Christian background, so I kind of had to find my faith on my own, and I had a much different path that I could have gone down. I could’ve let all that I’ve been through turn me into a completely different person, but I really just gave it all to God and fully leaned on Him, and He changed my life and my spirit for the better. I have this brightness about me now and this light. I’m honestly just overflowing with His love, and I have so much gratitude. I have received so much wisdom from His word, and it has truly been my armor and has given me so much confidence. I actually just made the decision not too long ago to get baptized on August 3rd, and I’m beyond excited.”

Anna added, ”It’s the best decision anyone could make, and I know how hard it is, especially at a young age, to have that confidence, not only in yourself, but in the future, and there’s so many what ifs. I honestly wish everyone could just feel the calmness that comes with knowing God is in control. Growing up with the security of God is something I wish I had, because the wisdom that He teaches really is the stepping stones for life. If everyone could love Jesus, there would be so much more positivity and just community. One thing I’ve really had to learn is that people are human, and they are going to mess up. People are going to hurt you, but God loves each and every one of us as His own. If I’m lucky enough to receive His love, then I can learn to forgive and love others the way Jesus loves me. I honestly think if more people thought that way, we wouldn’t feel so much negativity.”

Anna shared a Bible verse that is particularly special to her.

”One of my favorite verses is Psalms 28:7. This was my maw maw’s favorite Bible verse, and she always highlighted it in my Bibles. She recently passed away, and I was blessed to be able to just surround her with the Word of God. She really made an impact on my faith,” Medina said. ”It’s never too late, and there’s never a ’right’ time to find God. God doesn’t require perfection. We don’t need to clean ourselves to have a relationship with God. He meets us with open arms right where we’re at. God loves me the way I am, and He hears my pain and sees my imperfections and wants me to bring them to Him. Because of that, I am made new, and it’s never too late to find that, because everyone needs that comfort and love, no matter what age. There is no better way to receive it than from our Lord and Savior.”

She wants to help spread the Word of God to others and she mentioned a few of her own Godly role models that she looks up to.

”It’s so important, and honestly, there’s no higher calling. The fact that God looks at me and says I’m worthy of spreading His word and His love is the biggest blessing I will ever receive. If I can bring the presence of God to even one person, then it was worth my whole life. There is no greater joy than serving God, and why wouldn’t I want to share that? Bringing someone to God, especially someone young, will fulfill you in so many ways, and everyone is deserving of that love. It is important to spread that relationship, and share His word,” Medina said. ”A few of my favorite Godly role models are my small group leader, Krystal Agee, my church friends, and definitely my grandparents. They mean the world to me. It’s really important to have someone to lean on when you are struggling, especially with faith, and to have that connection is something I’ve prayed for a long time. They keep me connected to my relationship with Jesus and just the kindness that they show inspires me every day.”

Going to church and spreading her faith through prayer has completely changed Anna’s life. She shared some advice for anyone who is either struggling or new when it comes to having a relationship with God.

”I just joined the community of my church. Going to church every week and spreading my faith through prayer has been amazing. I will say, though, I play softball, and last year, I was the only girl in my grade to get all A’s. I honestly hung onto my faith through that school year, because calling on God gave me the motivation and the drive to really just apply myself in so many ways,” she said. ”Don’t give up. Faith requires setbacks and determination, and even though you may feel like everything is failing, just keep trying. Don’t stop praying. Don’t stop crying out to God, because He hears you. He left the 99 to find the one, and He seeks out the broken. You’re not alone, and He’s with you always. Find Godly friends and let go of worldly ways and desires. Surround yourself with good community, because it matters so much. Find someone you can talk to and be vulnerable with about your faith. Most of all, come to God with a pure heart. He wants you to be honest with Him. You don’t have to play a role. He knows your heart, and He loves you unconditionally.”

Anna loves praying, reading the Bible, and listening to worship music throughout the day, and she has already learned a lot during her walk with God.

”I definitely love praying and reading the Bible. I also really love listening to Christian music. I play it almost all the time, and when the world gets crazy, I just tune it out, and worship Him and call on His name for comfort,” she said. ”I’ve learned that the closer you get to Jesus, the more that the devil tries to interfere. It takes strength and perseverance to trust in His plan. You can’t get through the tough times if you don’t learn to let God in and let Him have control.”



LEGALS

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. JU-2023-496.02

IN THE MATTER OF AN ADOPTION PETITION OF: JULIE and SETH HEATHERLY
for the adoption of B.K.W. date of birth: 10/24/2022

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

NOTICE TO: Raven West and unknown father of B.K.W. date of birth 10/24/2022

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption in the above styled matter has been filed in said Court by Julie and Seth Heatherly. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption you must file a written response by the 11 day of September, 2025, with counsel for said Petitioners whose name and address are as shown and the Clerk of the Juvenile Court for Cullman County.

Melvin Hasting, Attorney for Petitioner
407 2nd Ave S.W.
P.O. Box 517
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0517
256-736-2230

STATE OF ALABAMA, CULLMAN COUNTY
I, Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Circuit court in and for said County and State, hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as the same appears of record in this office.
Witness my hand and official seal, this Day of 20
Clerk of Circuit Court

FILED IN OFFICE
AUG 06 2025
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

Case# PC2025-176
PB MIL Book:132 Page:128
Recorded in Above Book and Page
08/07/2025 4:27PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: PC2025-176

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MILDRED G. FRANK, DECEASED

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Alan Wood, Executor on the 7th day of August, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Jeffrey McLaughlin, Attorney for
Executor, Alan Wood
McLaughlin & Edmondson, LLC
321 Blount Avenue
Guntersville, Alabama 35976

TO: Publisher of the Cullman Tribune

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE

8/7/2025 8:49 AM
25-CV-2025-900054.00
CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

HAMMONS VERNA, Plaintiff,
V. Case No.: CV-2025-900054.00
MOORE II WOODROW F, Defendant.

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The Plaintiff having made a Motion for Service by Publication stating that the whereabouts and locations of Defendant: Woodrow F Moore II and any unknown heirs along with the following described real property;

A plot of land described a s Being LOT 23 & 44 of Smith Lakes Catalina Cove

recorded in the Office of the Probate Judge of Cullman County, Alabama, are unknown to the Plaintiff and it appearing that the Plaintiff has filed a Bill to Quiet Title seeking the entire and undivided fee simple interest in and to the subject lands with no restrictions thereon,

IT IS ORDERED that the above-named Defendants answer the Complaint by the Plaintiff by the 4th day of October, 2025 or thereafter a judgment by default may be rendered against the said Defendants.

IT IS FURTHERED ORDERED that th_is ORDER and NOTICE be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Cullman Tribune, a newspaper of general circulation in Cullman County.

DONE this 7th day of August, 2025.

1 st **EMILY N JOHNSTON**
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Probate County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
HELEN HERRON, * CASE NO. PC2015-326
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
MOTION FOR HEARING AND MOTION FOR STATUS HEARING

TO: MICHAEL HERRON, MARK HERRON AND ANY OTHER NEXT-OF-KIN AND HEIRS

Motion for Hearing received the 15th day of April, 2025, made Court record the 16th day of April, 2025, filed by Heath Meherg, Attorney for Petitioner Marie Herron, Special Administrator Ad Colligendum.

Motion for Status Hearing received and made Court record the 28th day of April, 2025, by Attorney Heath Meherg.

A Status Hearing has been scheduled for the **18th day of September, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.,** Before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 7th day of August, 2025.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Heath E. Meherg
Attorney for the Petitioner
409 First Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055



Legal Notice

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

MICHAEL LEE SIMMONS, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2025 - 260

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL LEE SIMMONS, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Ruby Cornelius on the 24th day of July, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Ruby Cornelius, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

STATE OF ALABAMA,
CULLMAN COUNTY.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by **Jeronimo Silva, Sole Member Manager of ST. SEBASTIAN ESTATES, LLC, an Alabama limited liability company,** dated October 10, 2024, which mortgage appears of record in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, at Mortgage Book 2099, Page 826, last assigned to **SMHI Investments, LLC**, recorded at Mortgage Book 2128 Page 826 ; and the undersigned SMHI Investments, LLC, as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Cullman County, Alabama, on August 29, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot 7, according to the map and plat of San Antonio, as recorded in Plat Book 2019, Page 44, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

Source of Title: Deed Book 668, Page 307

Property address: No 911 address, located on San Antonio Dr., Cullman, AL

Subject to any and all easements, restrictions, rights of ways of record.

Subject to ad valorem property taxes due and payable October 1of each year and delinquent January 1 of each year.

This property will be sold on an "as-is, where-is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate of the County where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. 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. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The purchase price must be paid in certified funds by close of business on the date of sale at the Law Office of Bland, Harris & McClellan, P.C. at the address indicated below. Bland, Harris & McClellan, P.C. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

SMHI Investments, LLC
By: Nancy F. McClellan, Attorney
401 2nd Avenue SW Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256) 734-4040

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2025- 148

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ELMA FAY HARPER, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Anthony Ray Harper on the 31st day of July, 2025, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Anthony Ray Harper
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Personal Representative
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

Probate
County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
SYLVIA MARIE RAMEY JONES,
Deceased.
Case Number: PC2025- 275

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Sylvia Marie Ramey Jones, Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 31st day of July, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Robert Kyle Ramey
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
EDWARD E. CHANDLER, JR.) CASE NO. PC 2025 - 259
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Sharron Chandler as Personal Representative of the Estate of Edward E. Chandler, Jr., deceased, on the 30th day of July, 2025, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Sharron Chandler
Personal Representative

Shay Persall
Attorney for Personal Representative

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

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2025- 257

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MARLIN RAY HAWKINS, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Charles F. Hawkins on the 23rd day of July, 2025, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Charles F. Hawkins
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

Case# PC2025-240
PB MIN Book 235 Page 449
Recorded in Above Book and
07/30/2025 2:55PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
MARY JO WALLER,
Deceased.
Case Number: PC2025- 240

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Mary Jo Waller, Deceased

Letters Of Administration, having been granted to the undersigned on the 30th day of July, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Jacky Waller
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

TO PUBLISHER:

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

Case# PC2025-029
PB WIL Book 131 Page 765
Recorded in Above Book and
07/24/2025 11:19AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: ESTATE OF
RICKY LEE HAYES, Deceased. **CASE NO: PC 2025- 029**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to DIANA L. HAYES, as Executor of the Estate of RICKY LEE HAYES, Deceased, on the 24th day of July, 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.

Diana L. Hayes
DIANA L. HAYES,
Executor for the Estate of
Ricky Lee Hayes, Deceased

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

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

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF)
)
MICHAEL ALLEN HOWARD,) CASE NO.: PC-2021-361
Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING
MOTION TO REMOVE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

TO: HUNTER HOWARD and ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Motion to Remove Personal Representative* has been filed by Tammy Young, Petitioner, through Attorney, Steven C. Smith. A hearing on said *Motion to Remove Personal Representative* been **re-set for the 7th day of October, 2025, at 11:00 A.M.**, Cullman County Courthouse, Probate Office Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

DONE this 6th day of August, 2025.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for Petitioner
PO Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2025 - 900242

BALDWIN CHAPEL CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

Plaintiff,

v.

DENISE BECKHAM and ALAN BECKHAM,

AND

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

Tract 1: A Tract Or Parcel Of Land Containing 1.12 Acres Of Land, More Or Less And Being A Part Of The Southwest Quarter Of The Northwest Quarter Of Section 12, Township 10 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama And Being More Particularly Described As Follows:

Commence At The Purported Northwest Corner Of Said Southwest Quarter Of The Northwest Quarter Of Said Section 12 And Run North 88 Degrees 42 Minutes 05 Seconds East And Run Along The Accepted North Line, A Distance Of 410.07 Feet To A Found Rebar; Thence Run North 89 Degrees 53 Minutes 53 Seconds East And Continue Along The Accepted North Line, A Distance Of 227.46 Feet To A Found Capped Rebar (LS-11845) Marking The Point Of Beginning, Thence North 89 Degrees 12 Minutes 26 Seconds East, A Distance Of 294.71 Feet To A Found Capped Rebar (LS-11845); Thence South 52 Degrees 58 Minutes 37 Seconds West, A Distance Of 319.07 Feet To A Set Rebar On The North Edge Of A Paved Road; Thence Run In A Westerly Direction Following The North Edge Of Said Paved Road, The Following 8 Courses:
North 58 Degrees 03 Minutes 14 Seconds West, 29.02 Feet; North 73 Degrees 35 Minutes 02 Seconds West, 23.54 Feet; North 82 Degrees 43 Minutes 04 Seconds West, 26.09 Feet; South 82 Degrees 12 Minutes 19 Seconds West, 27.62 Feet; South 70 Degrees 04 Minutes 22 Seconds West, 28.30 Feet; South 57 Degrees 10 Minutes 28 Seconds West, 31.13 Feet; South 52 Degrees 17 Minutes 37 Seconds West, 34.00 Feet; South 47 Degrees 22 Minutes 50 Seconds West, 256.03 Feet To A Set Rebar; Thence North 40 Degrees 19 Minutes 15 Seconds East, A Distance Of 507.80 Feet To The Point Of Beginning. Subject To Any Rights-Of-Way And/Or Easements Of Record.

Tract 2: A Tract Of Land Containing 4.21 Acres Of Land, More Or Less And Being A Part Of The Southwest Quarter Of The Northwest Quarter Of Section 12, Township 10 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama And Being More Particularly Described As Follows:
Commence At The Purported Northwest Corner Of Said Southwest Quarter Of The Northwest Quarter Of Said Section 12 And Run North 88 Degrees 42 Minutes 05 Seconds East And Run Along The Accepted North Line, A Distance Of 410.07 Feet To A Found Rebar; Thence Run North 89 Degrees 53 Minutes 53 Seconds East And Continue Along The Accepted North Line, A Distance Of 227.46 Feet To A Found Capped Rebar (LS-11845); Thence North 89 Degrees 12 Minutes 26 Seconds East, A Distance Of 294.71 Feet To A Found Capped Rebar (LS-11845) Marking The Point Of Beginning; Thence South 34 Degrees 30 Minutes 25 Seconds West, A Distance Of 37.00 Feet To A Set Rebar; Thence South 55 Degrees 11 Minutes 10 Seconds East, A Distance Of 105.01 Feet To A Set Rebar; Thence South 35 Degrees 22 Minutes 11 Seconds West, A Distance Of 431.44 Feet To A Point Marking The Northeast Corner Of That Certain Tract As Conveyed To Brenda Gilbreath By Deed Recorded In Deed Book 522, Page 105 In The Office Of The Judge Of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama; Thence North 48 Degrees 52 Minutes 14 Seconds West, A Distance Of 99.19 Feet To A Found Capped Rebar (LS-11845); Thence South 34 Degrees 30 Minutes 14 Seconds West, A Distance Of 395.08 Feet To A Found ½" Pipe Marking The Southwest Corner Of Said Gilbreath Tract, Same Being The Southeast Corner Of Baldwin School Property And Being On The Northeasterly Right-Of-Way Line Of U.S. Highway No. 278 And Being In A Curve To The Right Having A Central Angle Of 3 Degrees 37 Minutes 27 Seconds, A Radius Of 5,100.00 Feet And A Chord Bearing Of North 32 Degrees 39 Minutes 12 Seconds West; Thence Run Along The Arc Of Said Curve An Arc Distance Of 322.59 Feet To A Found ½ Inch Pipe; Thence North 40 Degrees 19 Minutes 15 Seconds East, Departing Said Right-Of-Way, A Distance Of 52.18 Feet To A Set Rebar On The Northerly Edge Of A Paved Road; Thence Run In A Northeasterly Direction Along Said Edge, The Following 8 Courses:
North 47 Degrees 22 Minutes 50 Seconds East, 256.03 Feet; North 52 Degrees 17 Minutes 37 Seconds East, 34.00 Feet; North 57 Degrees 10 Minutes 28 Seconds East, 31.13 Feet; North 70 Degrees 04 Minutes 22 Seconds East, 28.30 Feet; North 82 Degrees 12 Minutes 19 Seconds East, 27.62 Feet; South 82 Degrees 43 Minutes 04 Seconds East, 26.09 Feet; South 73 Degrees 35 Minutes 02 Seconds East, 23.54 Feet; South 58 Degrees 03 Minutes 14 Seconds East, 29.02 Feet To A Set Rebar; Thence North 52 Degrees 58 Minutes 37 Seconds East, Departing Said Paved Drive, A Distance Of 319.07 Feet To The Point Of Beginning. Subject To Any Rights-Of-Way And/Or Easements Of Record.

Tract 3: A Tract Or Parcel Of Land Containing 0.03 Acres Of Land, More Or Less And Being A Part Of The Southwest Quarter Of The Northwest Quarter Of Section 12, Township 10 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama And Being More Particularly Described As Follows:
Commence At The Purported Northwest Corner Of Said Southwest Quarter Of The Northwest Quarter Of Said Section 12 And Run North 88 Degrees 42 Minutes 05 Seconds East And Run Along The Accepted North Line, A Distance Of 410.07 Feet To A Found Rebar; Thence Run North 89 Degrees 53 Minutes 53 Seconds East And Continue Along The Accepted North Line, A Distance Of 227.46 Feet To A Found Capped Rebar (LS-11845); Thence North 89 Degrees 12 Minutes 26 Seconds East, A Distance Of 294.71 Feet To A Found Capped Rebar (LS-11845); Thence South 34 Degrees 30 Minutes 25 Seconds West, A Distance Of 37.00 Feet To A Set Rebar; Thence South 55 Degrees 11 Minutes 10 Seconds East, A Distance Of 105.01 Feet To A Set Rebar; Thence South 35 Degrees 22 Minutes 11 Seconds West, A Distance Of 431.44 Feet To A Point Marking The Northeast Corner Of That Certain Tract As Conveyed To Brenda Gilbreath By Deed Recorded In Deed Book 522, Page 105 In The Office Of The Judge Of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama , Same Marking The Point Of Beginning; Thence Run North 48 Degrees 52 Minutes 14 Seconds West, A Distance Of 99.19 Feet; Thence Run South 34 Degrees 40 Minutes 10 Seconds East, A Distance Of 105.00 Feet To A Found ½ Inch Pipe Marking The Northeast Corner Of The Daryl Hall Tract As Recorded In Deed Book 569, Page 799, In The Office Of The Judge Of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama; Thence Run North 35 Degrees 22 Minutes 11 Seconds East, A Distance Of 25.89 Feet To The Point Of Beginning.

Description of the foregoing Tracts taken from the Survey of Joseph E. Conn, III, AL. Reg. No. 17831, dated October 13, 2011.

AND

Those Fictitious Parties A-Z, whose identities are currently unknown and who will be added to this Complaint by amendment when ascertained, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the above-described property,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: DENISE BECKHAM AND ALAN BECKHAM, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown.

You are hereby notified that on the 2nd day of July, 2025, a Verified Complaint to Quiet Title to the above-described real property was filed in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Baldwin Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church against Denise Beckham and Alan Beckham, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, whose names and whereabouts cannot be ascertained after exercise of due diligence and who are believed may claim some right, title, interest, or claim in and to the above-described real property. All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or encumbrance or lien thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur, or otherwise respond to the Verified Complaint on or before the 8th day of September, 2025, else at the expiration of thirty (30) days thereafter suffer a judgment by default to be rendered against them, it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Lisa McSwain
Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Plaintiff's Attorney:
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 7th Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Circuit Clerk.

Lisa McSwain
Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

The final leg of our Western trip

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Continued from www.cullmantribune.com/2025/07/20/column-from-dinosaurs-to-devils

Have you ever seen one of our presidents? On June 6, 1991, on the 47th anniversary of D-Day, I saw and heard President George H.W. Bush in Atlanta, at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In 2007, I saw George W. Bush when he spoke at our annual convention in San Antonio. OK, that was not an in-person appearance, but a live feed via satellite and he was life size, so it seemed like he was there.

Then, a few weeks ago, I saw four American presidents...all on the same day and at the same place. From left to right there was George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln. There they were, larger than life, and right in front of us. Each one's head is around 60-feet long. George Washington's nose alone measures 21 feet long!

OK, you've probably seen them, too, but if not, I hope you get the opportunity to visit Mt. Rushmore. That those giant-size stone images are manmade, and carved on the side of a rock mountain, is almost unbelievable.

Why were those four presidents chosen? Washington was chosen because he was our first and the father of our nation; Jefferson because he drafted our Declaration of Independence and led the expansion of our nation through the Louisiana Purchase; Roosevelt because he led in the economic development of our nation and negotiated the building of the Panama Canal; and Lincoln because he led our nation through our only Civil War, during which he issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

In case you hadn't noticed, I never finished telling you about our trip out West. I've had a few other things on my mind these last two weeks, but I couldn't stop without telling you, (to quote Mr. Harvey), "the rest of the story."

We finally made the South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana and Wyoming loop and ended up right back where we started, in Rapid City, SD. We spent our final three days in that area.

After we visited the presidents, we went to see the Crazy Horse Memorial, a few miles south of Rapid City. This great mountain carving that began back in 1948 is still a work in progress.

I saw it 15 years ago, and we are still waiting for his horse to show up. When it does, it will be a colossal carving in the side of the mountain. There is a great Native American museum, movie and art gallery on the grounds as well.

We spent a good portion of the next day at Custer State Park. Custer Park is only about a 30-minute drive from Crazy Horse. I'm surprised those two memorials are located that close to one another.

The last time those two men were that close together things did not go well...especially for General Custer. Custer Park is 71,000 acres of serene scenery in the Black Hills that is filled with protected wildlife in their natural habitat. The Wildlife Loop Road is an 18-mile paved road that is like a drive-through, free-range zoo. We saw prairie dogs popping in and out out of their burrows, pronghorn antelopes running and leaping, buffalo grazing as they paid absolutely no attention to us, and my favorite of all, wild donkeys they call the "begging burrows." One walked beside me all the way to our car. No matter how much he and I begged, Jean would not let him get in. I really wasn't going to take him home with me!

All good things must come to an end. Our trip did, and now my ramblings about it must, too. I hope you've enjoyed coming along with us.

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

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Aug. 9, 1945

From the files of Aug. 9, 1945

HANCEVILLE HAPPENINGS
By HAZEL CARSTENSEN

Misses Dorothy Jackson, Margaret Hudson and Wanda Gibbs are visiting friends in Washington, D. C., this week.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Johnson of Tucson, Ariz., are visiting relatives.

Dickie Green, Wayne Hyatt, Twally Garner and Leon Foster are spending this week at the R.A. Camp, Grand View, Montgomery.

Fltg. Tech. Warren Musgrove who has recently returned from Germany is spending a 30-day furlough with his mother, Mrs. Ollie Musgrove in Bangor.

Mrs. C. T. Burkart and little son, Charles, spent a few days in Hartselle last week with Mrs. C. I. Lee.

Clyde Bland spent the week-end in Walter with Ralph and Douglas Abrien.

Mrs. G. C. Hansley and Mrs. Wynell Taphorn of Birmingham spent the week-end at home.

Miss Freda Fox of Mobile is visiting relatives here.

Mrs. G. B. Cooper and little granddaughter, Joy, of Birmingham were the week-end guests of Mrs. Julia McPherson.

Mrs. McNeely Waldrop and Mrs. Toby Brown spent Thursday in Birmingham.

Mrs. Bura Moore spent the week-end in Birmingham with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bennett.

Sue Oden and Betty Dunn of Cullman were the week-end guests of Helen Warren.

Mr. and Mrs. Tilman Gladney of Birmingham spent Thursday and Friday with Mrs. Frank Gladney.

John Pichelmeyer, Lloyd Jones, Charles Hartwig and Paul Hart spent last week at the Grand View R. A. Camp in Montgomery.

Rev. M. M. Musgrove is assisting Rev. A. M. Hicks in a revival at Welti this week.

Hilda Gaddy Guss of Center Hill spent Monday with Mrs. Dwight Nelson.

Mrs. Carter Gibbs and children, Annette and Sudduth, spent the week-end in Birmingham with Mrs. Fred Gibbs, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dill.

Mr. and Mrs. King of Birmingham were the week-end guests of Mrs. E. C. Gibbs.

Simcoe News

Cpl. Norman Deese is back in the States after 42 months overseas. He will be home soon with honorable discharge. He has three brothers in service. Sgt. Dual Deese in India, Jean Deese, S1/c in Boston, Mass., and Buel Deese, S2/c, somewhere on the Pacific.

Sgt. J. T. Farmer and M. P. Edsol Mangrum recently met in England.

Here from Birmingham for the week-end were Donald Hill, Esteen Adams, Mrs. Zulu Esterwood and children.

Mrs. J. W. Lindsey is home from California where she has been visiting her husband before he went overseas.

PALS IN SERVICE: (left to right) Sgt. Harold L. Burleson of Gorman, Texas; Cpl. John Peudugest of Roslirdal, Mass.; Eleatine H. De Leon of Austin, Texas; and Pfc. Bryant Thornton of Cullman. Pfc. Thornton trained at Camp Wheeler, Ga. He has been in the Army nine months and has served overseas five months. His wife and three sons are at home on Route 8, Cullman.



POET'S CORNER

Vision of His Return | By: Randy C. Hale

Dedication to Jean Calvert and Deb Heaton from Valley Springs

I was in the spirit
before the morning light
when the vision of the Lord
came into my sight.

I watched an angel moving
across a burial ground,
I watched the graves burst open
at the trumpet sound.

An angel moved toward the east,
disturbing clay and dirt,
vaults and caskets opened up
as the earth gave birth.

And then with vivid clarity
a choir of saints went up,
tier after tier it rose,
singing filled the earth.

The voices of the saints,
a victory song declared.
Heavenly music abounded
into the glorious air.

And in the end
that morning bright,
I saw the choir
rise out of sight.

People that I knew
with joy upon their face,
singing and praising,
God's amazing grace.

Then I arose from the dream,
rejoicing in God's love
and I will always cherish
this gift from up above.
The Bible says just like he left
that He will come again.
The dead in Christ shall rise,
we'll meet when He descends.

So please my brother, my sister,
look to the eastern sky,
for Jesus, our sweet Jesus,
could come at any time.



"The Bride" by Martha Lingerfelt

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

AUG. 9

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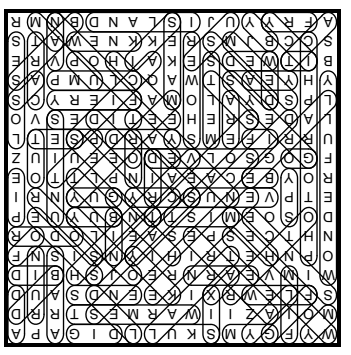
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

AUG. 9

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Clint HOLLINGSWORTH

Republican • House District 12

As a local leader, Clint has experience improving infrastructure, finding funds to support schools and fighting to provide emergency services with new equipment all while not raising taxes.

He knows what it takes to bring in jobs, support local business and strengthen our communities.

Clint has been an integral part of our community and knows how to get the job done for District 12.





HollingsworthForHouse.com

@ClintHollingsworthForHouse

Paid for by Friends of Clint Hollingsworth. 919 Parker Ave SW | Cullman, AL 35055