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# The Cullman Tribune

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WALLACE STATE SPORTS INFORMATION

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**Wallace State Cross Country battles snowy conditions at NJCAA Division II National Championships**
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PREP CROSS COUNTRY

## Vinemont makes school history at AHSAA State Championship

**April Powell**
Contributor

**The following is a guest article from April Powell**

**VINEMONT, Ala.** — Vinemont High School's Cross Country team made school history at the 2025 AHSAA 3A State Championship Nov. 8, bringing home multiple All-State honors and record-breaking performances.

Senior Brady Johnson claimed the 3A Boys State Championship » PAGE 6



APRIL POWELL

*Vinemont High School's Cross Country team made school history at the 2025 AHSAA 3A State Championship Nov. 8, bringing home multiple All-State honors and record-breaking performances. Left to right are Aurellia Powell, Anakin Powell and Brady Johnson. »*

# Best in Show!

## CHS Theatre tops Trumbauer District 3



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

*Cullman High School Theatre on Nov. 1, won Best In Show for its one-act performance of "Suite Surrender" at the Alabama Conference of Theatre Trumbauer District 3 Festival in Decatur.*

**Lauren Estes**
lauren@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman High School Theatre on Nov. 1, won Best In Show for its one-act performance of "Suite Surrender" at the Alabama Conference of Theatre Trumbauer District 3 Festival in Decatur.

**The group posted to Facebook:**
"District Trumbauer was a huge success!

"Cullman Theatre brought home Best in Show and Best Costume Design, and we're thrilled to be heading to State in December!

"A special congratulations to Cadan Fales, winner of Best Actor, and Noah Casey, winner of Best Supporting Actor in the one-act play. Our All-Star Cast members — Isaac Heinze, Lily Abbott, and Mary Atchison — also shined on stage!

"We're proud to share that many of our Individual Events earned Superior ratings and advanced to State as well.

"It was an incredible day for Cullman Theatre, and we're so grateful for everyone's support.

"Go Bearcats!"

Director Wayne Cook said there were 36 individual superior awards and many more.

"Our students work hard and are very talented," Cook said. "We have won awards on a District and State level for numerous years.

"Our students have grown to expect to be in contention every year. It means a great deal to be acknowledged by your peers who know theater."

CHS Theatre is also led by Choral Director Sarah Jane Skinner.

The group will now have the opportunity to perform the same show at the State Trumbauer Festival held this year at UAB Dec. 5-6.

Cook said Trumbauer is the high school division festival held by the Alabama Conference of Theatre every year. It is the largest high school theater event held in Alabama.

"The cast also won an award for Best Costumes," Cook said.

"Cullman Theatre has won Best In Show at District for nine of the last 11 years. 'Suite Surrender' will be one of 14 shows competing from all over the state at the State Trumbauer Festival in December. It is a great honor just to be in the top 14 programs."

Cook said Cadan Fales was awarded Best Actor and Noah Casey was named Best Supporting Actor. Lily Abbott, Mary Atchison and Isaac Heinze were all named to the All-Star cast.

**Individual District Trumbauer winners:**

- Ella Odle - Solo Acting
- Cheyenne » PAGE 6

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PREP CROSS COUNTRY

## Cold Springs girls win state; boys finish runner-up » PAGE 5

## HO! HO! HO! Christmas Show raises more than $7K



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*There were 72 vehicles, including classic cars, trucks, motorcycles and more, on display at the 39th annual HO! HO! HO! Christmas Show car, truck and motorcycle show Nov. 8, 2025.* » PAGE 8

## Alabama DHR: November SNAP benefits update » PAGE 3

## 'In His Image': Gala focuses on serving others as an act of faith



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*The Link of Cullman County hosted its annual fundraising gala Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025. The "In His Image" Gala drew around 450 guests for an evening centered on compassion, service and faith.* » PAGE 6

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CRIME

# Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 10

**Cullman Tribune staff**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 10, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

**CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**INCIDENTS**

**Nov. 6**

- harassing communications; Countryside Acres Rd.
- domestic violence; CR 1352
- harassment; CR 1043
- burglary; CR 1524

**Nov. 7**

- public intoxication; possession of dangerous drugs; promote prison contraband; Magnolia Ave. NW
- burglary; CR 1472
- domestic violence; College Dr. NE
- theft of property; CR 782
- possession of dangerous drugs; CR 18
- theft of property; CR 747

**Nov. 8**

- burglary; CR 747
- theft of property; Hwy. 91
- theft of property; CR 1043
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 536
- domestic violence; interference with a domestic violence emergency call; CR 925

**Nov. 9**

- domestic violence; resisting arrest; CR 1043
- domestic violence; CR 1486
- domestic violence; CR 747

**ARRESTS**

**Nov. 6-9**

**Anders, Tyler C.; 32**

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous
- FTA – driving while license suspended

**Barry, Benjamin Z.; 48**

- FTA – forged instrument
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, $1500-2500

**Beck, Justin R.; 26**

- FTA – possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

**Butler, Dekenerick D.; 40**

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – open container-alcohol in a vehicle

**Champion, Jennifer L.; 41**

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
- obstructing justice using a false identity
- FTA – retail theft-3rd degree

**Chapple III, Christian O.; 46**

- assault-domestic-harassment-family

**Corbin, Christopher L.; 54**

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

**Earwood, Cathryn J.; 39**

- juvenile court-filing and inspection of records-unlawful disclosure of information

**Ellenburg, Gearl T.; 23**

- DUI (alcohol)

**Emmons, Shantel L.; 36**

- possession of drug paraphernalia

**Forman, Makayla R.; 29**

- FTA – fraudulent use credit/debit card
- FTA – public intoxication

**Green, Charles K.; 34**

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia-2nd offense

**Hancock, Noah E.; 27**

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family
- interference with a domestic violence emergency call

**Keller, Daniel C.; 22**

- making false report to law enforcement authority

**Lee, Stephanie A.; 36**

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

**Mauro, Cailla M.; 33**

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

**Merrill, Aaron N.; 31**

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

**Nall, Tia M.; 33**

- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

**Overton, Dustin D.; 28**

- possession of marijuana
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- attempting to elude a police officer
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

**Parson, Ellis D.; 52**

- possession of methamphetamine

**Patterson, Alicia N.; 37**

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

**Rogers, Andrew C.; 38**

- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

**Smith, Daniel S.; 30**

- possession of drug paraphernalia
- sell/distribution of dangerous drugs

**Thompson, Irene V.; 23**

- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

**Turney, Elizabeth A.; 43**

- possession of methamphetamine
- promote prison contraband (drugs)
- public intoxication

**Villa, Jr., Antonio; 45**

- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – criminal trespass
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance

**Ward, Clayton A.; 52**

- BAIL JUMPING 2 – drug trafficking
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of drug paraphernalia
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of dangerous drugs

**CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**INCIDENTS**

**Nov. 6**

- harassing communications; person

**Nov. 7**

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $53; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-1st degree; El Milagro; cash; 2nd Ave. NW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $7; Hwy. 157
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $520; Olive St. SW
- stalking-2nd degree; person
- assault-3rd degree; criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damage to Chev. Equinox; $400; 1st Ave. SE

**Nov. 8**

- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person
- burglary-3rd degree; person; miscellaneous; 2nd Ave. NW

**Nov. 9**

- criminal mischief-2nd degree; person; damage to '21 Hyundai; $1,000
- theft of property-4th degree; Chevron; general merchandise; $25; 4th St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Dripping Springs Rd. NW

**ARRESTS**

**Nov. 7-9**

**Pugh, Jamie B.; 45**

- theft of property-4th degree

**Howard, Gerry W.; 77**

- false reporting to law enforcement

**Allred, Chastity B.; 37**

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

**Hill, Donald E.; 40**

- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – driving while revoked

**Scott, Tyra A.; 47**

- theft of property-4th degree

**Forman, Makayla R.; 29**

- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

**Miller, David H.; 46**

- DUI

**Ayers, Jr., James L.; 62**

- retail theft of property-1st degree

**Domenigoni, Joseph T.; 54**

- violation of protection order

**Champion, Jennifer L.; 41**

- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree

**Smith, Daniel S.; 30**

- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA – insurance violation

**Green, Charles K.; 34**

- FTA – attempt to elude
- FTA – unauthorized use of vehicle

**Nugent, Allison R.; 18**

- public intoxication

**Calligaris, Elijah J.; 21**

- DUI

**Cammon, Michael E.; 61**

- public intoxication

**Roden, Kross L.; 28**

- DUI

**Lee, Stephanie A.; 36**

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

**HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

# Marshall files suit against Cullman IV clinic for allegedly administering unapproved weight loss drugs

**Staff Reports**
Contributor

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall on Monday, Nov. 10, announced that the Cullman County Circuit Court granted his request for a temporary restraining order against Aurora IV and Wellness, a Cullman-based IV infusion clinic, and its owners, Amanda and Chris Medders.

According to Marshall's Office, "the defendants are accused of illegally administering unsafe, research-grade weight loss drugs to patients without their knowledge or consent."

Marshall sought a temporary restraining order to immediately close the business and freeze its assets, citing violations of Alabama's Deceptive Trade Practices Act and serious threats to public health and safety.

Cullman County Circuit Court Judge Greg Nicholas signed the order, which includes an asset freeze, on Thursday, Nov. 6. A preliminary injunction hearing is scheduled for Nov. 13.

The complaint alleges that Aurora IV and Wellness advertised popular weight loss drugs, tirzepatide and semaglutide, as "pharmaceutical-grade."

In reality, Marshall said, "the defendants were injecting patients with research-grade versions of those drugs that are not approved for human use. The drugs' manufacturer explicitly states that they are sold for laboratory research purposes only and should not be used by humans or animals."

**A Tribune review of the business' website found the following language on Nov. 10:**

"Semaglutide/Tirzepatide

"Price varies by dose

"Achieve your weight loss goals with these powerful, pharmaceutical grade peptides."

Marshall said in a media release, "President Trump took decisive action to make GLP-1 weight-loss medications affordable and accessible to all Americans, ensuring that when prescribed responsibly and administered appropriately, these drugs can be an invaluable resource. By contrast, exploiting that demand by misrepresenting unapproved, research-only chemicals as legitimate medicine is one of the most dangerous forms of consumer deception imaginable."

Marshall continued, "Patients who relied on this clinic were unknowingly injected with substances labeled strictly for research use, materials federal regulators have explicitly warned are risky for human use.

"This kind of reckless disregard for patient safety will not be tolerated in Alabama."

The temporary restraining order prevents the defendants from operating while the court reviews the matter.

Marshall seeks to permanently bar the defendants from working in Alabama's healthcare industry, dissolve the company, impose civil penalties and obtain restitution for affected consumers.

The complaint alleges the defendants' conduct began as early as May 2025.

To identify affected consumers, Marshall has set up an online survey for patients who received tirzepatide or semaglutide from the defendants since that time.

The survey can be accessed at www.alabamaag.gov/consumer-questionnaires.

Marshall thanked the Alabama Board of Nursing, the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners, the Cullman Police Department and the Winston County Sheriff's Office for their assistance in the investigation and execution of the temporary restraining order.

Aurora IV and Wellness is located at 219 Compass Way SW, in Cullman.

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**Send resume to: Jana Schroeder, RESRG Automotive Alabama LLC. Include job title. 2424 Industrial Dr. SW, Cullman, AL 35055 or applications@resrgautomotive.com.**

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# Alabama DHR: November SNAP benefits update

**Staff Reports**
Contributor

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — The Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) received notification the night of Saturday, Nov. 8, 2025, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). As per FNS, this was "a follow up to the guidance shared on October 10, October 24, November 4, November 5, and November 7, 2025..." The Nov. 8 memorandum told states to process partial SNAP payments with a 35% reduction of the maximum allotments, as per the Nov. 5 guidance.

It is important to understand that the Thrifty Food Plan was changed; and as a result, a straight 35% reduction from a recipients' normal monthly benefit may not be the amount received.

At this time, DHR is working to update the SNAP system with the change in the Thrifty Food Plan to determine each household's benefit amount at the reduced rate. DHR is hopeful to release benefits by the end of this week, barring any changes from FNS and/or any unforeseen problems in making changes to the SNAP system.

This serves as notice as required under 7 CFR 273.12(e)(1) that clients' benefits have been reduced as required by USDA/FNS memo dated Nov. 4 and Nov. 5, 2025. This is a 35% reduction in the Thrifty Food Plan as per memorandums dated Nov. 4 and Nov. 5, 2025.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**The Poetry of Recovery: Recovery Support Group**
Every Saturday at 10 a.m. at 514 Cleveland Ave. SW in Cullman. Facebook/The Poetry of Recovery. Contact Jeff at 727-542-6413 or John at 256-636-0612.

**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.

**Grief Support: Lost a Loved One Recently? Thinking about the coming holidays?**
Come to a six-session support group once a week through Nov. 16, 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.

**Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD**
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Tuesday, Nov. 11 – 6 p.m. Adult dinner and game night
• Wednesday, Nov. 12 – 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, Nov. 14 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Saturday, Nov. 15 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
• Sunday, Nov. 16 – 9 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

**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, Nov. 12, at 10 a.m. Storytime read by Briana Taylor
• Wednesday, Nov. 12, at 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Dinner everyone to bring a covered dish
• Wednesday, Nov. 19, at 10 a.m. Storytime with Melissa Porter
• Wednesday, Nov. 26: Open. No storytime
• Wednesday, Dec. 3, at 10 a.m. "Let it Shine Puppets" presents a song and dance Christmas presentation
• Wednesday, Dec. 10, at 10 a.m. Agriplex-the sweet smells of Christmas, an evergreen program
• Wednesday, Dec. 10, at 10 a.m. Christmas Dinner everyone to bring a food dish
• Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 10 a.m. Mrs. Santa & author Dorenda Doyle "The kid and the dog" take your picture with Mrs. Santa
• Wednesday, Dec. 31, at 10 a.m. New Year's theme storytime

**North Alabama Agriplex Programs**
• www.agriplex.org
• Friday, Nov. 14, 10-11 a.m., Little Farmers — Fritz and the Beautiful Horse. 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 per child, max $16 per family.
• Saturday, Nov. 15, 9-10:30 a.m., Farm Kids Club — Agriplex Barn Dance. Grab your partner and head to the pavilion for a family friendly lesson in this fun, traditional dancing style. All ages welcome! Fees: $15 per child, max $30 per family.
• Tuesday, Nov. 18, 6-8 p.m., Living Landscapes — Natural Parenting Class- Farmhouse Midwifery. Join us as we learn a holistic approach to parenting. We will cover baby wearing, making your own baby food, cloth diapering, natural remedies for common illnesses, the importance of sunlight and bare feet and more. Max $15 per family.
• Thursday, Dec. 4, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Elementary - Winter Wonderland Terrarium. In this hands-on workshop, you'll combine creativity and nature to construct your own enchanting miniature landscape with fun seasonal elements. $15 fee/max $30 per family.
• Thursday, Dec. 4, noon-2 p.m., Heritage Homeschool Secondary - Keepsake Resin Ornaments. In this hands-on class, you'll learn how to create personalized ornaments that preserve something special to you! Bring a treasure, all other supplies provided. $20 per person.
• Saturday, Dec. 6, 2 p.m., Living Landscapes - Wreath- Make and Take. Make your own reusable grapevine wreath using Cullman County grapevine. Decorate your base with native greenery and nature's bounty for a stunning holiday garland. $35 per person.
• Friday, Dec. 12, 10-11 a.m., Little Farmers - The Hat. 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 per child, max $16 per family.
• Saturday, Dec. 13, 9-10:30 a.m., Farm Kids Club - Cozy Craft & Cookie Decorating. Settle in, craft up something cozy, then try your hand at Christmas cookie decorating. Take home treats and a few new skills. $20 per person.

**Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting**
Thursday, Nov. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr. in Cullman.

**Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing**
Sunday, Nov. 16, at 5 p.m. with Bloodline. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278 East approximately 2 miles East of Holly Pond on the left. For more information, call 256-796- 5986 or 256-590-1501. Everyone is invited.

**Cullman Christkindlmarkt**
Nov. 20-Dec. 23 | Thursday-Saturday, 11 a.m.- 9 p.m. | Sundays, noon- 8 p.m. | Open seven days a week beginning Dec. 11 | Admission: Free | www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com

**2nd Annual Run Run Rudolph Fun Run/Walk**
Thursday, Nov. 20, at 5 p.m. at Sportsman Lake Park. https://tinyurl.com/RRRtickets. This is the one and only night to run or walk thru our Winter Wonderland Christmas lights! Ugly Christmas sweater/Christmas costume contest. We will have hot chocolate and shirts for sale at the finish line! Fun for all ages! Stroller friendly! Leashed dog friendly!

**7th Annual Christmas at the Grotto**
Nov. 20-23, Nov. 28-30, Dec. 4-7, Dec. 11-23 | 11 a.m.- 9 p.m., Thursday-Saturday and noon-8 p.m., Sundays; lights on at 5 p.m. | Ave Maria Grotto | Admission: Adults $12 | Seniors $10 | Military/first responders $9 | Teens (13–17) $10 | Kids (5–12) $9 | Kids 4 and younger FREE | Wagon rides (Dec 13 and 14 only) $5. Don't miss the Grotto's BIG weekend Dec 13 and 14! Live music, food trucks, horse-drawn wagon rides and Santa!

**Hanceville Civitans 9th Annual Tinsel Trail & Tree Lighting**
Friday, Nov. 21, at 6 p.m. at Veterans Park. Free. Join the community for a magical evening kicking off the holiday season! Enjoy free cookies and hot chocolate, take pictures with Santa, stroll through the beautiful Tinsel Trail and watch as we light up the town tree! Bring your family and friends — it's a night full of holiday cheer you won't want to miss!

**23rd Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park**
Nov. 21-23, Nov. 28-30, Dec. 3-7, Dec. 10-23, Dec. 26-28 (Christmas lights only), 5-9 p.m. at Sportsman Lake Park. Admission is $10 per car and $20 per bus. Enjoy a drive-through Christmas light display. Santa will be here, and there will be horse and carriage rides on select nights and we will have our magical Christmas Train rides!

**Cullman Christkindlmarkt Parade and Tree Lighting**
Friday, Nov. 21, at 6:30 p.m. Downtown Cullman, Warehouse District and Depot Park. Free. Join us for a magical evening in downtown Cullman at our annual Christkindlmarkt Parade and Tree Lighting! Watch as local marching bands, community organizations and festive floats fill the streets with holiday cheer. Then follow the parade into Christkindlmarkt where ABC 33/40's James Spann and a special musical guest will lead our spectacular tree lighting ceremony. Experience the wonder as we illuminate the night with both a show-stopping drone show that will light up the sky with Christmas magic!

**Small Business Christmas Market**
Saturday, Nov. 22 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center. $3 entry and free parking available. The first 60 shoppers in line will receive a free gift. For more information, contact Shayla Waldner at 256-595-8133 or Shayladenney2018@gmail.com. Get more details at Facebook/Small Business Christmas/Easter Market.

**36th Annual Cullman County Christmas Parade**
Saturday, Dec. 6, at noon. Route: Michele Street and U.S. Highway 31 South to Park Street, ending at Veterans Park. Admission: Free. Bring your family and friends to enjoy the holiday spirit as floats, bands and community groups fill the streets with Christmas cheer! Presented by the Hanceville Civitan Club.

**Good Hope Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park**
Saturday, Dec. 13, at 2 p.m. Route: Good Hope High School to Municipal Park. Admission: Free. Christmas in the Park will follow immediately after the parade. This year's theme is "Country Christmas."

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 11, 2025

PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

# Meek topples Woodville on the road 42-25 to advance

**Nick Griffin**
nick@cullmantribune.com

**WOODVILLE, Ala.** — After finishing with the third seed in Region 7, the Meek Tigers hit the road for a round one game at Woodville Friday night, and it was a nailbiter. Meek trailed 19-12 at halftime but dominated the fourth quarter, outscoring the Panthers 22-0 in the final frame to pull away with a huge, 42-25 win and secure a spot in the second round.

Woodville drove down the field for a touchdown on the game's opening possession to take an early, 7-0 lead but the Tigers responded before the end of the first quarter. Hunter Wyatt recovered a fumble to give Meek good field position and Aiden Benson took a handoff 37 yards for a touchdown to trim the lead to 7-6. That was the score headed into the second quarter.

Wyatt contributed on the offensive side of the ball early in the second quarter, scoring on a 9-yard run to put the Tigers in front 12-7. However, a 9-yard touchdown from the Panthers allowed Woodville to pull ahead 13-12 midway through the second quarter and they found the end zone one more time just before the end of the half to take a 19-12 lead into the locker room at the break.

The Tigers came out swinging to start the second half. Benson punched in a 2-yard touchdown run and ran in the two-point conversion to give Meek a 20-19 lead in the third quarter.

Woodville answered with another scoring drive to take a 25-20 lead into the fourth quarter but a 13-yard touchdown run by Benson gave the Tigers a 26-25 lead with 10 minutes remaining in regulation.

Midway through the fourth, Evan McCay scored on a 1-yard run and Benson punched in another two-point conversion to stretch the lead to 34-25.

On the ensuing kickoff, Meek recovered an onside kick to regain possession with great field position, and it didn't take long for the Tigers to take advantage. Benson took his third touchdown run of the night into the end zone from 25 yards out and McCay punched in the two-point conversion to make it a 42-25 game with 3:30 on the clock.

Woodville was unable to answer the late onslaught from the Tigers and Meek punched its ticket to the second round with a 42-25 win over the Panthers.

Meek (8-3) will travel to play top-ranked Wadley (10-0) in round two next week.



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*The Meek Tigers defeated Woodville in round one of the 1A state playoffs 42-25 Friday night.*

PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

# Vinemont falls at No. 10 Westbrook Christian

**Ryan Guthery/Nick Griffin**
The Cullman Tribune

**RAINBOW CITY, Ala.** — The Vinemont Eagles traveled to Rainbow City for a first-round matchup against Westbrook Christian Friday night and they had their hands full with the Warriors. The Eagles trailed 21-0 at halftime and the Warriors continued pulling away in the second half on their way to a 49-0 win.

Westbrook Christian drove down the field and scored on its opening possession to take a 7-0 lead midway through the first quarter.

The Warriors added another touchdown in the final two minutes of the first to take a 14-0 lead into the second.

Another touchdown made it a 21-0 game with 4:41 remaining in the second quarter and that was the score when we hit halftime.

Westbrook Christian continued pulling away in the third, scoring 21 points in the period to take a 42-0 lead into the fourth.

The Warriors found the end zone more time in the final frame to cap a 49-0 win over the Eagles.

Vinemont finishes the season 6-5 after advancing to the state playoffs for the sixth consecutive year.



BOBI JO CREEL/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*The Vinemont Eagles fell to Westbrook Christian in the first round of the 3A state playoffs 49-0 Friday night.*

# Wallace State Cross Country battles snowy conditions at NJCAA Division II National Championships

**Special to The Cullman Tribune**

**FORT DODGE, Iowa** — The Wallace State men's and women's cross country teams capped their seasons on the sport's biggest stage Saturday, competing in the NJCAA Division II National Championships at Lakeside Golf Course in Fort Dodge, Iowa. After spending two days preparing in crisp but clear fall weather, the Lions awoke on race day to heavy snowfall that changed the course and the challenge entirely.

By the time the men's race began, nearly 4 inches of wet snow had accumulated. Head Coach Tony Crider said the conditions were unlike anything the teams had faced this season.

"We just were not ready for the conditions we faced today," Crider said. "But they learned a valuable lesson for future seasons."

Despite the snow and mud, both Wallace State squads earned sixth-place finishes in the national field.

**Men finish 6th behind tight pack**

The men opened the day and turned in a strong team performance. Tyler Anthony led Wallace State with a 33rd-place finish, clocking 27:54.5. Close behind was Carson Masterson in 45th (28:09.3), followed by Connor McCrary in 49th (28:10.6). Elliot Denard placed 72nd (28:33.9), and Daniel Leija crossed just a step later in 73rd (28:34.0), keeping the Lions' scoring pack closely grouped.

**Morgan earns All-American honors as women take sixth**

The women's team also finished sixth, highlighted by another standout performance from sophomore Brookelyn Morgan.

Running near the front of the lead pack early, Morgan was in second place through the first kilometer and took over the race lead at the 2K mark. She battled the cold and deteriorating footing over the final stretch, ultimately crossing 10th to earn NJCAA Division II All-American honors.



WALLACE STATE SPORTS INFORMATION

*Wallace State cross country team*

"Brookelyn went out with the leaders, and she was in the top two through about a mile and a half," Crider said. "I think she just got gassed a little bit from the snow and mud, but she persevered to finish 10th."

Grace Gosline finished 27th (20:25.5), while Hanna Sheffield placed 49th (21:06.5). Reagan Parris rounded out the scoring group in 83rd (21:50.2).

**Reflecting on a championship season**

Crider praised not only his runners but also the support staff and administration behind the program. "I'm really thankful for Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics, Kristen Holmes, Athletic Director Paul Bailey and all of the administrative staff, along with my assistant coaches," Crider said.

"They've been vital to all of our success this year. We couldn't do any of this without them. It's been a good year. I'm very proud of all of my runners."

Looking ahead to next season, Crider noted that the 2025 NJCAA Division II National Championship course returns to familiar territory, Huntsville's John Hunt Park, where Wallace State has built many of its most significant moments.

"We will be back to contend for a national championship when it is run in Huntsville," he said.

The Lions return home with two sixth-place national finishes, an All-American and valuable experience for the journey ahead.

# Wallace State women roll past Southern Crescent Tech with dominant 96-20 victory

**Special to The Cullman Tribune**

**HANCEVILLE, Ala.** — Wallace State women's basketball continued its strong start to the season Saturday afternoon, overwhelming Southern Crescent Technical College 96-20 at Traditions Bank Arena.

The Lions opened the game with a stifling defensive performance, outscoring SCTC 27-0 in the first quarter and allowing their first basket more than 12 minutes into the contest.

Wallace State extended its lead to 51-5 by halftime, controlling every facet of the game. The Lions shot 51% from the field and knocked down 20 of 39 attempts from beyond the arc, finishing at a 51% clip from long distance. Their defensive pressure was equally impressive, holding SCTC to just 26% shooting while forcing 22 turnovers, including 16 steals.

The Lions also dominated the boards, outrebounding the Tigers 43-18 with 21 offensive rebounds, and displayed strong ball movement, recording 29 assists on 36 made baskets.

Kam Sanders led Wallace State with 15 points along with five rebounds and four assists, pacing a balanced offensive effort. Idaysia Mercer finished with a double-double, scoring 12 points and dishing out 12 assists in an impressive floor-general performance.

Taylor Smith and Heather Tetro also added 12 points each, with Smith contributing seven rebounds, three steals and two blocks, while H. Tetro added two assists and two steals.

Leah Childress scored 11 points and tallied two assists, while Bailey Tetro added nine points and two assists. Sinaya Gibson delivered a strong effort on the glass with seven points, nine rebounds, and two steals.

With the win, Wallace State improves to 4-0 on the season. Through four games, the Lions are averaging 77 points per game while holding opponents to just 34 points per contest, establishing themselves early as one of the top defensive teams in the conference.

Wallace State returns to action Thursday, hosting Northeast Mississippi at Traditions Bank Arena. Tip-off is scheduled for 5:30 p.m.



WALLACE STATE SPORTS INFORMATION

*Wallace State women's basketball team*

# thanksgiving DINNER CHECKLIST

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**WEEK LONG SAVINGS!**
Wednesday - Tuesday
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100 Ct.
Red Plastic
$6.99 Ea.

**SIMPLY DONE FOAM PLATES**
130 Ct.
$4.99 Ea.







**WHITE LILY BROWNIE MIX**
18 Oz. Chocolate Fudge
or Dark Chocolate
99¢ Ea.




**PARKAY SPREAD**
1 Lb.
Quarters
2 for $3




**LAND O LAKES BUTTER OR SPREAD**
15-16 Oz. Selected Varieties
or 8 Oz. Butterballs
$3.49 Ea.

**STOUFFER'S FAMILY SIZE ENTREES**
30-40 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$8.99 Ea.






**CHICKEN BREAST FILLET PATTIES**
3 Lb.
Breaded
$5.99 Ea.




**McKENZIE'S CREAMED CORN**
20 Oz. Golden or White
or 16 Oz. Fried Corn
3 for $5

BACK Ad #46

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thanksgiving DINNER CHECKLIST

WAREHOUSE DISCOUNT GROCERIES

*Saving You Money Is What We're All About!*

WEEK LONG SAVINGS!
Wednesday - Tuesday
November 12 - 18, 2025




**BLUE PLATE MAYONNAISE**
30 Oz. Original
or Light
$2.99 Ea.

**BRISTOL COOKED HAM**
16 Oz. Can
$2.99 Ea.







**RED LOBSTER CHEDDAR BAY BISCUIT MIX**
11 Oz.
2 for $5




**McCORMICK CHILI SEASONING MIX**
1-1.25 Oz.
Selected Varieties
5 for $5




**WILLIAMS ROLL SAUSAGE**
1 Lb.
Mild or Hot
$2.99 Ea.




**BORDEN THICK CUT SHREDDED CHEESE**
32 Oz. Quesadilla or
Four Cheese Mexican
$6.99 Ea.




**WILLIAMS SAUSAGE BISCUITS**
12 Ct., 22 Oz.
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## SEEDLESS RED GRAPES
California
$1.99 LB.




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10-10.5 Oz.
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69¢ EA.




## MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE
24-27 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$13.99 EA.




## MARTHA WHITE FLOUR OR MEAL
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Selected Varieties
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## THAT'S SMART! SUGAR
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## THAT'S SMART! COOKING OIL
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## PILLSBURY CAKE MIX
15 Oz.
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**1615 Town Square S W Cullman, AL**

**780 Main St. N E Hanceville, AL**




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## WHOLE FRYERS
Fresh Chicken
$1.99 LB.



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## GROUND ROUND
Fresh 85% Lean
Family Pack
$5.49 LB.




## BRYAN BACON
12 Oz.
Regular or Thick
$3.89 EA.




## BRYAN JUICY JUMBOS
15 Oz.
2 for $5




## HILLSHIRE FARM SMOKED SAUSAGE
12-14 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$3.49 EA.




## RUDY'S FARM SAUSAGE PATTIES
3 Lb.
Mild or Hot
$9.99 EA.




## BRYAN HAM OR TURKEY
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Selected Varieties
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Selected Varieties
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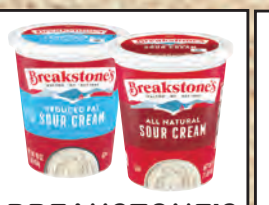

## PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE
8 Oz. Pkg. Original
or 1/3 Less Fat
2 for $5




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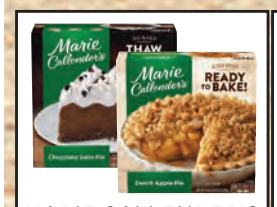

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$2.99 EA.




## FOOD CLUB WHIPPED TOPPING
8 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$1.29 EA.




## STOUFFER'S PARTY SIZE ENTREES
57-90 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$15.99 EA.




## TYSON CHICKEN
23-29 Oz. Fully Cooked
Breaded Selected Varieties
$5.99 EA.




## TOTINO'S PARTY PIZZA
9-10 Oz.
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## FOOD CLUB PIE FILLING
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6 Oz.
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## FOOD CLUB BROTH
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Chicken or Beef
2 for $3




## FOOD CLUB GRAVY
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Selected Varieties
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## JIF PEANUT BUTTER
15-16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5




## CHEX MIX OR BUGLES SNACKS
7-8 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5




## PRINGLES POTATO CHIPS
5-5.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4




## PLANTERS PEANUTS
16 Oz.
Dry Roasted
2 for $6




## NABISCO FAMILY SIZE OREOS OR RITZ CRACKERS
11-20 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$4.99 EA.




## DEL MONTE VEGETABLES
14-15 Oz.
Selected Varieties
5 for $5




## BETTY CROCKER CASSEROLE POTATOES
4 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $3




## BRYAN VIENNA SAUSAGE
4.6 Oz.
Original or Chicken
5 for $5




## CHICKEN OF THE SEA CHUNK LIGHT TUNA
5 Oz. Can
In Oz or Water
5 for $5




## PEPSI, MTN DEW, DR PEPPER OR STARRY
12 Pk.
12 Oz. Cans
$5.99 EA.



## PEPSI, MTN DEW, DR PEPPER OR STARRY
6 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
3 for $12




## PEPSI, MTN DEW, DR PEPPER OR STARRY
2 Liter Bottles
2 for $4




## AQUAFINA WATER
24 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
$5.99 EA.




## FRITOS OR CHEETOS
6.5-10 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $8




## GOLDEN FLAKE TORTIYAHS! OR ON THE BORDER CHIPS
8-12 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5




## GOLDEN FLAKE OR UTZ SNACKS
Barrels
Selected Varieties
$5.99 EA.




## LEWIS BAKE SHOP 1/2 LOAF BREADS
12 Oz. Hawaiian
or Artisan Style
2 for $4




## LITTLE DEBBIE CHRISTMAS SNACKS
6-10.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6




## LITTLE DEBBIE BIG PACKS
12.67-30.03 Oz.
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12 Pk. Regular
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12 Pk. Fudge,
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## STELLA ROSA WINE
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$11.99 EA.

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$7.89 LB.




## CHARTER RESERVE SMOKED GOUDA
or Havarti
Deli Sliced
$7.49 LB.




## KRETSCHMAR SLICED CHEESE
8 Oz. Baby Swiss, Provolone,
Pepper Jack or Mild Cheddar
$4.69 EA.



## MAMA TURNEY PECAN PIE
or Chocolate
or Chess 20 Oz.
$11.79 EA.




## KING'S HAWAIIAN PARTY PACK ROLLS
24 Ct. Original
or Savory Butter
$7.99 EA.



## JALAPENO CHEESE BREAD
Fresh Made
Loaf
$3.99 EA.

# Sights from the Hanceville Mud Creek Arts & Crafts Festival


GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

# Cold Springs (from Front)

**Sammy Confer**
sammy@cullmantribune.com

**DANVILLE, Ala.** — The 2025 AHSAA Cross Country State Championship took place in Danville on Saturday morning, and the Cold Springs girls and boys took home some more hardware. The Lady Eagles finished as the 1A-2A state champions, while the Eagles ended up taking home the runner-up trophy.

The Lady Eagles finished with a team score of 45 and had five runners finish inside the top-25, while the Eagles finished with a team score of 87 and behind the 1A-2A state champions, Athens Bible School. Five of their runners collected a finish inside the top-30.

Individually, Reese Swidecki won the state title in the 1A-2A division for Cold Springs, while Vinemont's Brady Johnson took home the state championship in the 3A division.



COLD SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

***The 2025 AHSAA Cross Country State Championship took place in Danville on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2025, and the Cold Springs Lady Eagles finished as the 1A-2A state champions, while the Eagles ended up taking home the runner-up trophy.***

**1-2A Girls**
- 1st - Reese Swidecki, Cold Springs (19:20.00)
- 4th - Paizley Whitlow, Cold Springs (19:58.59)
- 7th - Kynzlie Myrex, Cold Springs (21:01.03)

**1-2A Boys**
- 9th - Logan Perdue, Cold Springs (17:42.60)
- 10th - Garrett Scheer, Cold Springs (17:47.79)

**3A Boys**
- 1st - Brady Johnson, Vinemont (15:51.42)
- 15th - Anakin Powell, Vinemont (18:02.13)

**4A Boys**
- 12th - Drake Nichols, Good Hope (16:58.61)

**6A Girls**
- 17th - Madeline Stidham, Cullman (20:01.85)

**6A Boys**
- 17th - Avin Dempsey, Cullman (16:23.73)
- 20th - Henry Crocker, Cullman (16:34.28)

**Cold Springs Girls (State Champions)**
- 1st - Reese Swidecki (19:20.00)
- 4th - Paizley Whitlow (19:58.59)
- 7th - Kynzlie Myrex (21:01.03)
- 17th - Macie Huffstutler (21:53.16)
- 24th - Ayla Kate Huff (22:22.06)
- 33rd - Claire Huffstutler (22:46.93)
- 41st - Claire Hancock (22:56.49)
- 54th - Ally Mavers (23:46.84)
- 104th - Lesli Jones (26:07.33)

**Cold Springs Boys (State Runner-Up)**
- 9th - Logan Perdue (17:42.60)
- 10th - Garrett Scheer (17:47.79)
- 24th - James Baggett (18:37.02)
- 25th - Samuel Hunt (18:40.16)
- 32nd - Carson Rice (18:49.25)
- 53rd - Caleb Dill (19:25.95)
- 96th - Blake Belcher (20:48.20)
- 148th - Easton Freeman (23:29.94)
- 167th - Lucas Freeman (27:29.67)

**Cullman Girls**
- 17th - Madeline Stidham (20:01.85)
- 34th - Mabry Free (20:39.21)
- 42nd - Addison Vogelaar (20:54.36)
- 82nd - Khole Nalley (22:04.92)
- 119th - Victoria Waldrop (23:10.71)
- 120th - Callie Pugh (23:11.25)
- 135th - Katie Richter (23:27.07)
- 137th - Tinley Alldredge (23:32.97)
- 153rd - Audrey Floyd (24:01.52)
- 217th - Abby Ashwander (26:52.92)

**Cullman Boys**
- 17th - Avin Dempsey (16:23.73)
- 20th - Henry Crocker (16:34.28)
- 25th - Jacob Taylor (16:41.86)
- 39th - Benjamin Stidham (17:06.47)
- 67th - Mason Gobble (17:49.17)
- 100th - Connor Robinson (18:21.05)
- 103rd - Dawson Helton (18:23.10)
- 114th - Thatcher Lucas (18:32.69)
- 150th - Reid Huelsmann (19:11.23)
- 155th - Noah Casey (19:15.99)

**Good Hope Girls**
- 56th - Jada Alsup (22:47.92)
- 73rd - Cadence Watson (23:35.24)
- 98th - Makenna Deridder (24:48.17)
- 105th - Chloe Campbell (25:11.14)
- 111th - Veronica Horvath (25:32.82)
- 118th - Ashton Gray (25:51.70)
- 130th - Sara Self (26:49.73)
- 146th - Aubrey Scott (29:17.95)
- 155th - Evelyn Quinn (31:08.86)

**Good Hope Boys**
12th - Drake Nichols (16:58.61)

**Holly Pond Girls**
- 31st - Addison Gambrill (22:45.04)
- 49th - Bella Gambrill (24:13.35)
- 62nd - Kynleigh Wood (24:49.24)
- 108th - Kyliahna Alldredge (29:15.93)
- 109th - Kylie Twilley (29:17.05)
- 123rd - Peyton Reed (33:20.43)

**Vinemont Girls**
- 13th - Aurellia Powell (21:27.12)

**Vinemont Boys**
- 1st - Brady Johnson (15:51.42)
- 15th - Anakin Powell (18:02.13)
- 65th - Andrew Landreth (19:36.67)
- 92nd - Clark Johnson (20:25.82)
- 100th - Davy Johnson (20:45.96)
- 120th - Yojan Patino (21:39.30)
- 135th - Logan Holt (23:18.44)
- 154th - Karson Wright (30:01.06)

**West Point Boys**
- 59th - Jesus Tovar (18:25.61)



# Smith Lake Baptist hosting food drive, free Thanksgiving dinner boxes for families in need

**Gauge Day**
gauge@cullmantribune.com

**CRANE HILL, Ala.** — Smith Lake Baptist Church is inviting the community to take part in its Food Drive and Thanksgiving Dinner Box outreach, an effort to bless local families in need this Thanksgiving season.

The food drive is happening now, running through Nov. 14, with donations being accepted at the church pavilion. Requested items include canned vegetables, canned cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, small hams or turkeys and other nonperishable food items.

The initiative will culminate with the distribution of free Thanksgiving dinner boxes on Friday, Nov. 15, available to those in need by request only.

All requests will be confidential and can be made by messaging event organizer Jamie Hutchins. Box pickup will take place at Smith Lake Baptist Church from noon-1 p.m.

Hutchins said the food drive marks the start of a new "serve team" at the Smith Lake Baptist Church, an outreach effort centered on identifying and meeting local needs. "We have been praying for God to show us a need in our community to serve, and this is the greatest need He showed us," she said.

She added that the goal is not just to provide food, but to show care and compassion to those who may be struggling this season. "We want the community to know that there are people in this community who see them, love them and will be there in their time of need," Hutchins shared.

For more information, or to donate or request a Thanksgiving box, contact Jamie Hutchins at 256-347-6883. Smith Lake Baptist Church is located at 1585 County Road 222 in Crane Hill. The pavilion is located directly behind the church.

# Gala (from Front)

**Anabelle Howze**
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The Link of Cullman County hosted its annual fundraising gala Thursday, Nov. 6. The "In His Image" Gala drew around 450 guests for an evening centered on compassion, service and faith.

The annual gala typically serves as the kickoff to The Link's end-of-year giving campaign, but this year's event placed special focus on addressing the growing hunger crisis brought on by the disruption of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

"We wanted to emphasize the importance of our community coming together to help neighbors in need.

"The Pantry at The Link is 100% community funded and volunteer run, and we've seen a tremendous increase in families seeking help," said Melissa Betts, executive director of The Link.

The event's theme, "In His Image," was inspired by Genesis 1:27.

It was meant to encourage attendees to see both themselves and others as reflections of God's image.

The gala's visual motif, referencing Michelangelo's "Creation of Adam," served as a reminder that serving others is an act of faith.

During the evening, several community members and organizations were honored for their dedication. Tonya Stephens received Volunteer of the Year, Dawson Foust was named Young Professional of the Year, Desperation Church received the Mission Partner of the Year award, Home Street Home Cullman Chapter was named Community Partner of the Year and Sara Manney received the Legacy Award.

Betts said the night's success went beyond attendance and fundraising totals.

"We made new friends and partners. That's what community is about, supporting one another and strengthening the place we all call home."

Funds raised will support The Pantry at The Link directly.

Betts encouraged residents to "Give, gather and serve by donating, collecting pantry staples or volunteering their time.

"Everyone has a gift," she said. "Whatever it is, we invite you to share it with us to make Cullman stronger."

Learn more about The Link of Cullman County at www.linkingcullman.org.

# Theatre (from Front)

Marchman - Solo Acting
- Lille Hogue - Solo Acting
- Lola Phillips - Solo Musical
- Emmett Foster - Solo Musical
- Isaac Heinze - Solo Musical
- Noah Casey - Duet Musical
- Isaac Heinze - Duet Musical
- Cadan Fales -Solo Musical
- Cadan Fales - Group Musical
- Lily Abbott - Group Musical
- Mary Atchison - Group Musical
- Emmaline Powell - Playwriting
- Caroline Quattlebaum - Solo Musical
- Anne Lunsford - Solo Musical
- Aiden Wisener - Group Musical
- Aubrey Duncan - Group Musical
- Ella Odle - Group Musical
- Graham Wright - Group Musical
- Graham Wright - Solo Musical
- Abby Ashwander - Solo Musical
- Abby Ashwander - Duet Musical
- Avery Lane Green - Duet Musical
- Colton Pipes - Duet Acting
- Noah Casey - Duet Acting
- Dylan Tisdale - Solo Musical
- Avery Lane Green - Solo Musical
- Dylan Tisdale - Duet Acting
- Wyatt Shields - Duet Acting
- Anna Sandlin - Solo Musical
- Anna Sandlin - Duet Musical
- Caroline Quattlebaum - Duet Musical
- Lauren Cherry - Solo Musical
- Jonah Browning - Solo Musical
- Mitchell Claire Olvey - Solo Musical
- Jill Blocher - Solo Musical

# History (from Front)

title, crossing the finish line in 15:51.42, a personal record and the fastest time ever run by a Vinemont athlete at the state meet.

Joining him on the All-State podium was Anakin Powell, a 10th grader, who placed 15th overall with a time of 18:02.13, marking his first All-State recognition.

The Vinemont 3A Boys team finished an impressive sixth place overall, the highest team finish in school history at the state level. This year's squad also set a new school record with the fastest team average ever recorded — 18:56 across all five scoring runners.

This marks only the second time in school history that Vinemont has produced two All-State runners in the same season, as well as the second time having a boys' state champion.

History was also made on the girls' side, where eighth-grader Aurellia Powell placed 13th in the 3A Girls race, running 21:27.12. Her finish earned her All-State honors, making her the first female runner in Vinemont history to achieve that distinction.

The 2025 season will be remembered as a milestone year for Vinemont Cross Country — one marked by determination, record-setting performances and a program continuing to rise among Alabama's best.

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LEGALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
There will be a public hearing before the Cullman County Commission, Cullman County
Commission Office, Cullman County Courthouse, Cullman, Alabama, December 16, 2025, at
4:00 p.m. to receive comment on closing a portion of County Road 121, more particularly
described as the following:
The entirety of County Road 121.
Which abutting property owners wish to vacate and abandon.

Cullman County Commission
Jeff Clemons, Chairman

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE**

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by CLIFTON D. FOWLER and wife, MARTHA MICHELLE FOWLER, to Traditions Bank, as follows: mortgage securing the property described below, said Mortgage dated August 8, 2022, and recorded on August 12, 2022, in Mortgage Book 2024 Page 541 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, as modified by that Modification of Mortgage dated January 27, 2024, and recorded on February 8, 2024 in Mortgage Book 2074 Page 285 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, the undersigned Traditions Bank, 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 in Cullman, Alabama, on the 3rd day of December, 2025, between the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A part of the Northeast quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 10 South, Range 5 West, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Northeast corner of said quarter-quarter; thence West along the North quarter line 600 feet to the P.O.B.; thence South along Shirley Stein's property line to North Right of Way of a county road; thence Southwesterly along North Right of Way of said county road 200 feet to a point; thence North to the North quarter line to a point that is 200 feet West of P.O.B; thence East along the North quarter line back to the P.O.B. Lying and being in Cullman County, Alabama. Otherwise known as 702 County Road 842, Cullman, AL 35057, Cullman County.

Also

One (1) Brown/White 1986 Mays Enterprises FD-10 Mobile Home bearing serial number MAL3554; whether now owned or hereafter acquired, including all attachments, accessions, accessories, fittings, increases, tools, parts, repairs, supplies, additions, replacements of and substitutions for all or any part of the foregoing property, and proceeds thereof, wherever located. Any and all insurance refunds relating to the foregoing property.

Property Address: 702 County Road 842, Cullman, AL 35057

This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure.

PUBLICATION DATES: November 11, November 18 and November 25, 2025

NEWSPAPER: The Cullman Tribune

TRADITIONS BANK
Mortgagee Steven C. Smith
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
Telephone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
steve@smithandsmithllp.com

**STATE OF ALABAMA )** **NOTICE OF MORTGAGE**
**CULLMAN COUNTY )** **FORECLOSURE SALE**

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of that mortgage from Bobby Walker and wife, Brandy Walker, to Johnny Albright dated November 9, 2023, and recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, on November 13, 2023, in Mortgage Book 2067 at Page 988; and

Johnny Albright, as mortgagee, having declared all of the indebtedness secured by said mortgage due and payable, and such default continuing, notice is hereby given under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, that Johnny Albright, as mortgagee, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Courthouse in Cullman, Cullman County, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale (between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.) on the 17th day of November, 2025, the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, together with hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging and all buildings, structures, fixtures and other improvements now or hereafter existing, erected or installed thereon to-wit:

Commencing at an 1 inch pipe found at the purported SW comer of the SE Quarter of the SW Quarter of Section 11, Township 9 South, Range 1 West of the Huntsville Meridian, Cullman County, Alabama; Thence North 01 degree 09 minutes 11 seconds West 574.88 feet to a ½ inch rebar found; thence South 65 degrees 02 minutes 48 seconds East 160.58 feet to an ½ inch rebar found at the purported NW comer of that certain property registered in the name of Gielle Properties, LLC, in Deed Book 586, Page 866 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, the True Point of Beginning for the property herein described; Thence from the True Point of Beginning, South 06 degrees 06 minutes 09 seconds West 23.50 feet to an ½ inch rebar found, said point being North 06 degrees 06 minutes 09 seconds East 217.27 feet from an ½ inch capped rebar found at the purported SW comer of that certain property registered in the name of the Gielle Properties, LLC in Deed Book 586, Page 866 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama; Thence South 67 degrees 46 minutes 54 seconds West 188.22 feet to a ½ inch rebar found on the Northeasterly right of way of Fire Station Road; Thence along said right of way, North 20 degrees 09 minutes 34 seconds West 151.24 feet to an ½ inch pipe found at the purported SW comer of that certain property registered in the name of Bobby Burden and Sharon Burden in Deed Book 406, Page 557 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama; Thence along the Southerly boundary of said Burden property, South 87 degrees 04 minutes

22 seconds East 238.65 feet to an ½ inch pipe found at the purported SE comer of said Burden property; Thence South 16 degrees 02 minutes 21 seconds West 36.50 feet lo the True Point of Beginning for the property herein described; Said lands containing 0.49 acre, more or less, and lying and being in Cullman County, Alabama.

SUBJECT TO all existing easements, mmrmum building lines, restrictions, and rights of way, recorded or unrecorded.

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

84 Fire Station Road, Baileyton, AL 35019;
Parcel ID: ll-01-11-0-001-071.000

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, and any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record, including, but not limited to, those superior to said mortgage first set out above.

. aid property will be sold on an "AS-IS" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

**ALABAMA LAW GIVES SOME PERSONS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN PROPERTY THE RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. PROGRAMS.MAY ALSO EXIST THAT HELP PERSONS AVOID OR DELAY THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. AN ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THESE RIGHTS AND PROGRAMS AS A PART OF THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.**

Johnny Albright,
as Mortgagee

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

# Local Farmers Federation helps raise funds for Ag Foundation




MARLEE JACKSON

*Cullman County Farmers Federation team participants in the Alabama Farmers Agriculture Foundation Skeet Shoot were, from left, Sheriff Matt Gentry, Brandon Woods, Brett Holmes and Matt Hogue. The 10th annual event was held Nov. 7, at Selwood Farms in Alpine and raised money for Foundation scholarships, Ag in the Classroom and other programs supporting agricultural education and youth development. Since its inception, the Skeet Shoot has raised over $500,000.*

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# WSCC Department of Nursing Education holds annual Let's Pretend Hospital event

**Anabelle Howze**
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

**HANCEVILLE, Ala.** — For many young children, a trip to the doctor or hospital can bring anxiety and fear, but Wallace State Community College's Department of Nursing Education is working to change that.

Last week, from Nov. 4-6, the department hosted its annual Let's Pretend Hospital event. This hands-on, interactive experience welcomes more than 1,000 children from across the county to explore healthcare in a fun and friendly environment.

The event began in 2008 as a way to serve the community while giving nursing students valuable, real-world experience. Over the years, it has grown into a large-scale outreach program that helps children learn about safety, health and the important role of medical professionals.

"We hope the children leave feeling more confident and less afraid of medical visits," said Heather Ashley, Wallace State nursing instructor. "It's all about helping them understand that doctors, nurses, and first responders are here to help."

This year's event transformed the college's health science facilities into themed hospital rooms, each designed and decorated by nursing students. Each theme represented a specific aspect of health science. Themes included Super Mario Bros. for exercise, Minecraft for health and safety, Disney's "Frozen" for X-rays and healthy bones, Dr. Seuss for emergency room visits, The Operation Game for surgery and a Jungle Room for hospital basics.

Hanceville Fire & Rescue also made an appearance, teaching fire safety and emergency escape planning.

Ashley said the preparation involved all 500 nursing students coming together to set up, beginning with an inspiring session from Dr. Terri Poe of UAB Hospital.

Beyond benefiting the community, the event offers nursing students the opportunity to develop skills applicable in a real-world pediatric setting.

"Our students learn that healthcare isn't just about their career — it's about serving others. Wallace State truly loves its community in every way, and if we have the opportunity to give back, we want to," said Ashley.




ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

***Wallace State Community College's Department of Nursing Education welcomed more than 1,000 first-graders to its facilities Nov. 4-6, 2025, for the annual Let's Pretend Hospital.***

# Obituary Announcements: Nov. 8-10

**Jolinda Carol Cannon, 59**
Funeral service for Jolinda Carol Cannon, age 59 of Cullman, will be Monday, November 10, 2025, at 7 p.m. at Cornerstone Revival Center, officiated by Bishop Wilbanks. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 6-7 p.m. at the church. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

**Jack H. Stricklin, 92**
Funeral services for Jack H Stricklin of Hanceville will be at 2 p.m. Monday, November 10, 2025, at Hanceville funeral home Chapel, the Reverend Ken Dunivant officiating, with interment at Hopewell Cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at 1 p.m. Mr. Stricklin passed away at his home, while being cared for by his family and with the support of Cullman Regional Medical Center Hospice. Mr. Stricklin was born July 31, 1933, in Cullman County to Hullett Scott Stricklin and Zelma Day Stricklin. He attended White City School and Hanceville High School, took his GED and joined the Air Force in 1951, serving at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines and Kadena Okinawa and then in the Air Force reserves until 1959. After working a few years for Hayes in Birmingham and then Dothan, as an airplane mechanic, he returned to the family dairy farm, (The Stricklin Dairy in the White City community) where he built a home and along with his wife, Carolyn, raised their three children. Mr. Stricklin became a baptized member of Hopewell Baptist Church as a teenager until he later transferred his membership to Hanceville First Baptist Church where his wife, Carolyn, was a member. Mr. Stricklin was a kindhearted, frugal, hard-working farmer, who enjoyed the simple life of being home on the farm, enjoyed his family, his dairy animals, gardening, and nature in general. In 1985, Mr. Stricklin almost lost his life in a trucking accident that left him disabled. But it was amazing to see him overcome his limitations through the years and make the best of things. Following his accident, he picked up woodworking as a hobby and made some beautiful items that he generously gave to family and friends. In his later years, as his health declined, he enjoyed feeding the birds and taming stray kitty cats that would show up. He loved to sit and sip coffee while watching all kinds of critters that graced his yard; then comically giving a play-by-play account of what the squirrels, groundhogs, birds, opossums, and raccoons did throughout the day and night. He loved visits and meals with his family. His grandchildren and great grandchildren affectionately called him Pop Pop. Mr. Stricklin is survived by his son, Michael (Hilary) Stricklin of Atlanta; Daughter, Kathy (Warren) Griffith of Fayette; son, David (Patricia) Stricklin of Hanceville; six grandchildren, Julie (Rob) Saulinskas, Elizabeth (Chandler) Wall, Melanie (Brandon) Stewart, Jonathan (Jodi) Griffith, Anna (Chris) Strickland, and Jacob (Jess) Stricklin; and thirteen great-grandchildren, Shane Saulinskas, Dylan Saulinskas, Peyton Wall, Taylor Saulinskas, Harper Wall, and Mason Saulinskas, Ella Stewart, William Stewart, Austin Strickland, Parker Kate Griffith, Ross Griffith, Rhett Griffith, and Caleb Strickland. Mr. Stricklin was preceded in death by his wife, Carolyn Kyle Stricklin; his parents, Scott Stricklin and Zelma Day Stricklin; and sister, Mary Francis Reese. Serving as pallbearers will be his grandsons, Jonathan Griffith and Jacob Stricklin; and great grandsons, Shane Saulinskas and Dylan Saulinskas. The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the Cullman Regional Hospital and Hospice staff.

**Janie Louise Stedham, 95**
Our Lord has called Janie Louise Baird Stedham home. Louise was born March 11, 1930, in Anniston, Alabama. She passed away on November 6th, 2025. Her parents, William Pace Baird and Lee Oma Leslie Baird, sister Edna Ruth Baird, her loving husband, Mayor W. Gene Stedham; her smiling son, Gary Beecher Stedham; and her devoted daughter, Sherry Stedham Hamilton (Bill) preceded her to heaven. Her daughter, Teri Stedham Powell (Lionel James Powell) and her son-in-law Captain William C. Hamilton Jr. (Sherry) are left to cherish her memory. Louise and Gene were blessed with five grandchildren: Ashley Stedham Mitchell (Darren), Jim Powell (Kelly), Tyler Powell (Laura), Haley Hamilton Watson (Chris) and Holly Hamilton Klug (Ryan). They were further blessed with 14 great-grandchildren who brought her endless joy. Louise was loved by many and will be deeply missed. She graduated from Anniston High School in 1948 and married the love of her life, Gene Stedham, on August 19th, 1950. They celebrated sixty-seven years of marriage until his passing in 2018. As a child, she attended Noble Street Baptist Church until 1967, when her family transferred their membership to Parker Memorial Baptist Church. She remained a faithful member of Parker Memorial from 1967 to the present. In 2015, Gene and Louise moved to Cullman, Alabama, to live with Teri and Lionel Powell, and during her residency in Cullman she attended First Baptist Church. Louise lived a life marked by devotion to her faith, her family, and her community. She loved singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School, volunteering for Vacation Bible School, and caring for her three children and the many friends who filled their home. She retired after 20 years of dedicated service with Sears & Roebuck, where she worked from 1968-1988. We rejoice that she is now at peace in the loving arms of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and reunited with her loved ones in heaven. A graveside service will be held at Highland Cemetery in Anniston, Alabama on Monday, November 10, 2025, at 1 p.m. Bro. Mack Amis officiating. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to: Parker Memorial Baptist Church, 1205 Quintard Ave, Anniston, AL 36201, https://www.parkermemorial.com/online-giving

**Mary Hunt, 82**
Funeral services for Mary Hunt, 82, of Hanceville will be 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 12, at Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Hunt was born on September 19, 1942, to the late Teman Copeland & Lois Copeland in Jefferson County, Alabama. She passed away on November 9, 2025, at Hanceville Nursing Home and Rehab Center. Survivors include her children, Joe (Connie) Hunt, and Angie (Alan) Widner; grandson, Jesse (Kyndal) Widner; great grandson, Case Widner; and her sister, Lynn Veal. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Hunt was preceded in death by her husband, Billy Ray Hunt; and her granddaughter, Kaitlyn Widner. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hunt Family.

**Gary "Charlie" Freeman, 76**
A graveside service for Gary "Charlie" Freeman, 76, of Bremen will be 1 p.m. Thursday November 13th at Antioch Baptist Church cemetery in Bremen. Visitation will be prior to the service from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Freeman was born October 22, 1949, in Cullman, Alabama to the late Olin & Ola Freeman. He passed away November 8, 2025, in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Freeman is survived by his wife of 53 years, Judy Freeman; children, Garic Freeman, Cindy Freeman (Craig), Sandy Pittman (Paul), Rodney Freeman (Lori); grandchildren, Timothy Hannon, Jake Campbell, Clay Campbell, Zachary Hannon, Allison Warner, Zachary Young, William Pittman; great grandchildren, Kegan Campbell, Xavier Cash Warren, Grayson Brooks Warner, Linley & Conner Armstrong; siblings, Jerry Freeman (Chong), Terry Freeman (Kyong Hai), Barry Freeman (Anita), Patricia Henderson; and a host of nieces and nephews. Mr. Freeman was preceded in death by his parents, Olin and Ola Freeman; and his grandson, Chase Warner. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Freeman family.

## FREE OBITUARY LISTINGS

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CULLMAN PARKS, RECREATION & SPORTS TOURISM

***Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism has earned national reaccreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies, placing it among the top 2.5% of agencies nationwide and one of only two in Alabama to meet these rigorous standards.***

# CPRST earns national reaccreditation from CAPRA

## One of only two accredited agencies in Alabama and among less than 2.5% nationwide

**Staff Reports**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism (CPRST) has earned national reaccreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), administered by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). This recognition places CPRST among the top 2.5% of agencies nationwide and one of only two in Alabama to meet these rigorous standards.

Cullman first made history in 2019 as the state's first CAPRA-accredited agency and now joins the ranks again following a comprehensive six-year review.

"This isn't just another accomplishment to hang on the wall; it represents so much more than that. It's the result of years of hard work from an exceptional team," said CPRST Executive Director Nathan Anderson.

"Our CAPRA Team Leaders, Christy Turner and Kimberly Speegle, led the effort with remarkable organization and attention to detail, and Board Member Dr. Beth Bownes Johnson provided invaluable guidance throughout the process. Reaccreditation requires commitment at every level, and I'm proud of how our leadership team and staff continue to uphold national standards that make Cullman a model for others."

The reaccreditation process evaluates compliance with 154 national standards — from fiscal management and planning to public engagement and risk management.

Each standard must be supported by extensive documentation and verified through a national review team, making CAPRA one of the most challenging and respected benchmarks in the profession.

"CAPRA is about operational excellence, not just meeting standards but living them," said Kyle Clark, director of operations for CPRST.

"Every policy, every process, every safety measure is part of that larger picture. I'm proud of our team for the consistency and professionalism that made reaccreditation possible."

"CAPRA is intentionally tough by design," said Rusty Turner, CPRST board chairman. "It's been the national benchmark for excellence since 1994, and reaccreditation reminds us that excellence isn't a destination — it's a responsibility we must continually foster. I'm deeply grateful for our team and for those who laid the groundwork that allows us to serve our community at this level."

In addition to this reaccreditation, CPRST made history in 2023 as the first agency in Alabama and one of very small number in the South to ever receive the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence, which honors the nation's top-performing parks and recreation agency in its population category.

"It's great to see our parks and recreation department continue to operate with excellence at a nationally recognized level," said Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs.

"Earning reaccreditation through CAPRA, on top of the National Gold Medal, shows that Cullman is leading the way in responsible management, innovation and quality of life for our citizens."

This reaccreditation affirms CPRST's continued commitment to community, professional excellence and long-term sustainability, values that have positioned Cullman as one of the most progressive and award-winning park systems in the nation.




# Show (from Front)

**Lauren Estes**
lauren@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Automobile enthusiasts came out on a beautiful Saturday for the 39th annual HO! HO! HO! Christmas Show car, truck and motorcycle show Nov. 8, in the parking lot near Cullman Caring for Kids.

Cullman Caring for Kids Executive Director Steven Sutter said 72 vehicles, including classic cars, trucks, motorcycles and more, were on display for the show, which raised more than $7,000 for the nonprofit.

"We raised over $7,000 and overall it was an amazing day," he said.

"We had perfect weather and an awesome turnout for the event."

Event Organizer Sonya Green previously shared the show was started by Larry Harris and Burl Smith more than 30 years ago, and it is now hosted each year in their memory.

"We've had good years and bad years, but we continue to raise generally between $5,000 up $10,000," Green said, "All proceeds go directly to Cullman Caring for Kids."

Learn more about the show at www.Facebook.com/hohohochristmasshow and see ways you can get involved with Cullman Caring for Kids at www.facebook.com/CullmanCaringForKids.



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

