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PD. POL. ADV. GUDGER FOR SENATE
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SUNNY

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BILL KING

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

How do you get your football?

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State Report Card: County, City school systems report highest grades in system histories

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Alabama State Department of Education Report Card for the 2024-2025 school year was released Thursday, Nov. 13, and both Cullman County School and Cullman City Schools achieved the highest scores ever in their respective system histories.

Cullman County Schools
Cullman County Schools earned an A for the second year in a row. The system received an overall score of 91, which, according to the system, is "the highest score we've ever had. In north Alabama, Cullman County Schools is tied with Madison County for the top score among county systems in the area."

"While everything that is learned throughout our school system cannot be measured with this score alone, I am extremely proud of our students, faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication to continued improvement," said » PAGE 2

– PREP CHEER –

3 local squads win state titles







CULLMAN COUNTY CHEER CLUB, ADDISON VARSITY CHEER

The Cullman High School Varsity, Addison High School Varsity and Cullman High School Junior Varsity cheerleading teams brough home 2025 AHSAA State Cheerleading Competition titles this week.

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The 2025 AHSAA State Cheerleading Competition took place inside Bill Harris Arena in Birmingham, on Monday and Wednesday, Nov. 10 and Nov. 12, with three local teams bringing home state titles.

In the Varsity Traditional Division, Cullman High School topped 6A, while Addison High School bested the 1A competition in the Varsity Game Day Division. In the Junior Varsity Game Day Division, Cullman High School's JV squad took home the hardware.

Varsity Traditional Division
- Cullman High School – 6A State Champions (Score: 79.20)
- Holly Pond High School – 3A 3rd place (Score: 65.00)

Varsity Game Day Division
- Addison High School - 1A State Champions (Score: 88.90)
- Hanceville – 3A 8th place (Score: 83.80)
- Holly Pond – 3A 12th place (Score: 81.70)
- Vinemont – 3A 16th place (Score: 79.40)
- Good Hope – 4A 14th place (Score: 78.20)
- West Point – 5A 9th place (Score: 81.90)
- Cullman – 6A 3rd place (Score: 90.60)

Junior High Game Day – Small Division
- Good Hope Middle School – 8th place (Score: 74.00)

Junior High – Small Division
- Good Hope Middle School – 3rd place (Score: 59.40)

Junior Varsity – Large Division
- Cullman High School JV – 2nd place (Score: 74.30)

Junior Varsity – Game Day Division
- Cullman High School JV – State Champions (Score: 92.00)

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GIDGET GREGORY

Billy Stewart from the Holly Pond Senior Center » PAGE 4

Linda Kress Self named St. Paul's Lutheran School 2026 IMPACT Award honoree



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Linda Kress Self » PAGE 2

Triple threat Cullman Christmas



AVE MARIA GROTTO, CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS

This year, attendees will be able to enjoy an all-in-one experience at the seventh annual Christmas at the Grotto, Cullman Christkindlmarkt and 23rd annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park, beginning next week. Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism; Cullman County Parks and Recreation; and the Ave Maria Grotto have joined forces to offer a free shuttle service attendees can use to move among these amazing Christmas destinations. » PAGE 5

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 14

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 14, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INCIDENTS
Nov. 10
• possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1662
• domestic violence; CR 1701
• theft of property; CR 1682
• criminal mischief; CR 1202

Nov. 11
• burglary; CR 715
• domestic violence; CR 1194
• trafficking drugs; possession of controlled substance; possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1223
• criminal mischief; CR 1445
• theft of property; I65SB MM 299

Nov. 12
• dog bite; CR 1720
• harassing communications; CR 623
• theft of property; CR 1059
• theft of property; CR 437

ARRESTS
Nov. 10-12
Anders, Tyra S.; 34
• assault-child abuse-simple-family

Antonio, Steven R.; 46
• possession of methamphetamine
• possession of barbiturate
• possession of dangerous drugs
• possession of marijuana-2nd degree
• possession of drug paraphernalia

Blackmon, Christopher E.; 31
• assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Bustamante, Michael T.; 28
• assault-domestic-harassment-family

Gomez Alavez, Reynaldo; 21
• DUI (alcohol)

Goodwin, Joseph M.; 47
• PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of dangerous drugs

Hand, Justin A.; 43
• VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
• VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of drug paraphernalia

Harris, Jason L.; 37
• PROBATION VIOLATION – failure to register as sex offender
• FTA – negotiating worthless instrument

Harris, Nathan D.; 37
• FTA – criminal mischief-damage to private property
• FTA – criminal trespass
• FTA – operating vehicle without insurance
• FTA – driving while license suspended
• FTA – operating vehicle with expired tag

Huggins, Jerry J.; 50
• FTA – burglary-residence-force
• FTA – reckless endangerment

Jolly, Gary L.; 28
• PROBATION VIOLATION – sex offense-force

Maddox, Dusty G.; 40
• FTA – driving while license suspended

Parton, Amanda C.; 37
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
• FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)

Patterson, Christopher F.; 57
• VIOLATION OF RELEASE – violation of a domestic violence protection order

Sandlin, Corey L.; 36
• FTA – speed above 45 mph, county road

Scott, Levi P.; 22
• burglary-residence-no force

Simmons, James P.; 38
• FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled

Skinner, Paul L.; 51
• possession of methamphetamine
• possession of dangerous drugs
• possession of marijuana-2nd degree
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
• FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
• FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
• FTA – failure to signal
• FTA – drug trafficking

Villa, Alexis B.; 23
• FTA – theft-miscellaneous
• FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
• FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Wimbs, William J.; 51
• possession of methamphetamine
• possession of drug paraphernalia
• FTA – sell/distribute methamphetamine
• FTA – unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
• FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
INCIDENTS
Nov. 10
• harassing communications; person

Nov. 11
• unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; theft of property-3rd degree; person; trailer hitch; $600; 4th St. SW

Nov. 12
• burglary-3rd degree; criminal mischief-2nd degree; City of Cullman; damaged property; McNabb Dr. SW

Nov. 13
• burglary-3rd degree; theft of property-3rd degree; criminal mischief-3rd degree; ABH Properties; miscellaneous; 7th St. SW
• domestic violence-3rd degree; person
• harassing communications; person

ARRESTS
Nov. 12-13
Suman, Shaun C.; 46
• public intoxication

Westmoreland, Terena N.; 41
• FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
• FTA – resisting arrest
• FTA – false information to law enforcement
• FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree (2 counts)
• FTA – expired tag
• FTA – driving while suspended

Mears, Jessica V.; 42
• criminal trespass
• disorderly conduct

Cineus, Christopher; 31
• theft of property-4th degree

Owen, Anna H.; 39
• theft of property-4th degree
• possession of controlled substance
• possession with intent to distribute
• promoting prison contraband-2nd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Grades (from Front)

Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette. "An A on our State Report Card is further evidence of the great things happening every day throughout Cullman County. While we continue to improve I am excited about what the future holds for our students."

Said the system: "Congratulations to our teachers, administrators, and staff for a job well done!"

Cullman City Schools
Cullman City Schools earned an A for the sixth consecutive year, receiving an overall district grade of 96, "the highest score in system history since the state began issuing report cards in 2018."

Several key performance indicators also reached historic levels:
• Achievement Rate: 91.44% — the highest ever recorded for the district
• Graduation Rate: 96.83% — the highest since report cards began
• College & Career Readiness Rate: 96.38% — the highest since report cards began
• Chronic Absenteeism: 8.27% — the lowest rate since 2019

Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff praised students, faculty and families for their dedication to maintaining such high performance across the district.

"These results represent the collective commitment of our teachers, staff, students, and community," Kallhoff said. "We are proud of the strides our district continues to make, and we remain focused on providing an exceptional educational experience for every student."

Said the system: "Cullman City Schools extends its appreciation to the community for ongoing support and partnership in fostering academic excellence."

Get more details
To get more detailed numbers of either system or individual schools within them, visit https://reportcard.alsde.edu/SelectSchool.aspx.

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Self (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — St. Paul's Lutheran School recently announced that Linda Kress Self has been selected as the recipient of the 2026 IMPACT Award, which will be presented during the St. Paul's Lutheran School Benefit Dinner & Auction on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at Cotton Creek.

The award is inspired by 1 Peter 4:10–11: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen."

The IMPACT Award recognizes individuals who have used their God-given gifts in service to others, leaving a lasting impact on the lives of students, families and the greater St. Paul's community.

A lifelong supporter of Christian education, Kress Self began her educational journey at St. Paul's Lutheran School in 1976, where she fondly remembers her kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Gloria Lovett and Mrs. Hermetz, and later beloved educators, including Hazel Heinze, Margie Burkhart, Martha Blanton and Norman Rehmer.

"Those memories will forever be a part of my heart," she shared. "The friendships made there were for life. My sister and I will always consider Kristi Luhmann Ferdoussi as our sister because of the years we spent together at St. Paul's School, church, youth, Sunday School and of course, VBS. There are songs we still reminisce about such as 'Consider the Lilies,' 'Father Abraham,' 'Pass It On' and singing 'O Christmas Tree' in German."

After graduating from Cullman High School in 1989 and Auburn University in 1993, Kress Self felt God calling her back to St. Paul's, not as a student, but as a teacher. She began teaching at the school in August 1994, mentored by some of the same teachers who had once guided her as a child.

"It was such an amazing experience to work with some of the teachers that you admired growing up and teaching you how to master the art of teaching," she said. "I truly believe that my gift as a teacher started in elementary school by these women, and I cannot tell them enough how much I admire them and love them."

Over the next 10 years, she taught both fifth and sixth grades, shaping young hearts and minds with the same dedication and love that had inspired her own faith and learning.

In 2004, Kress Self transitioned to Falkville Elementary School, where she has continued her 32-year teaching career with passion and excellence, serving in grades one, four, five and six. In 2023, she earned her Master's Degree in Elementary Education, graduating with a 4.0 GPA, a testament to her perseverance and lifelong love of learning.

"I tell my students about my struggles in obtaining my degree and how I never quit but always kept pushing forward to do better," she said. "I not only did it for me, but for any future children I teach. Learning never stops! I love to try new things and prove that I can do them."

Today, her legacy continues through a new generation, including her granddaughter, now a student at St. Paul's.

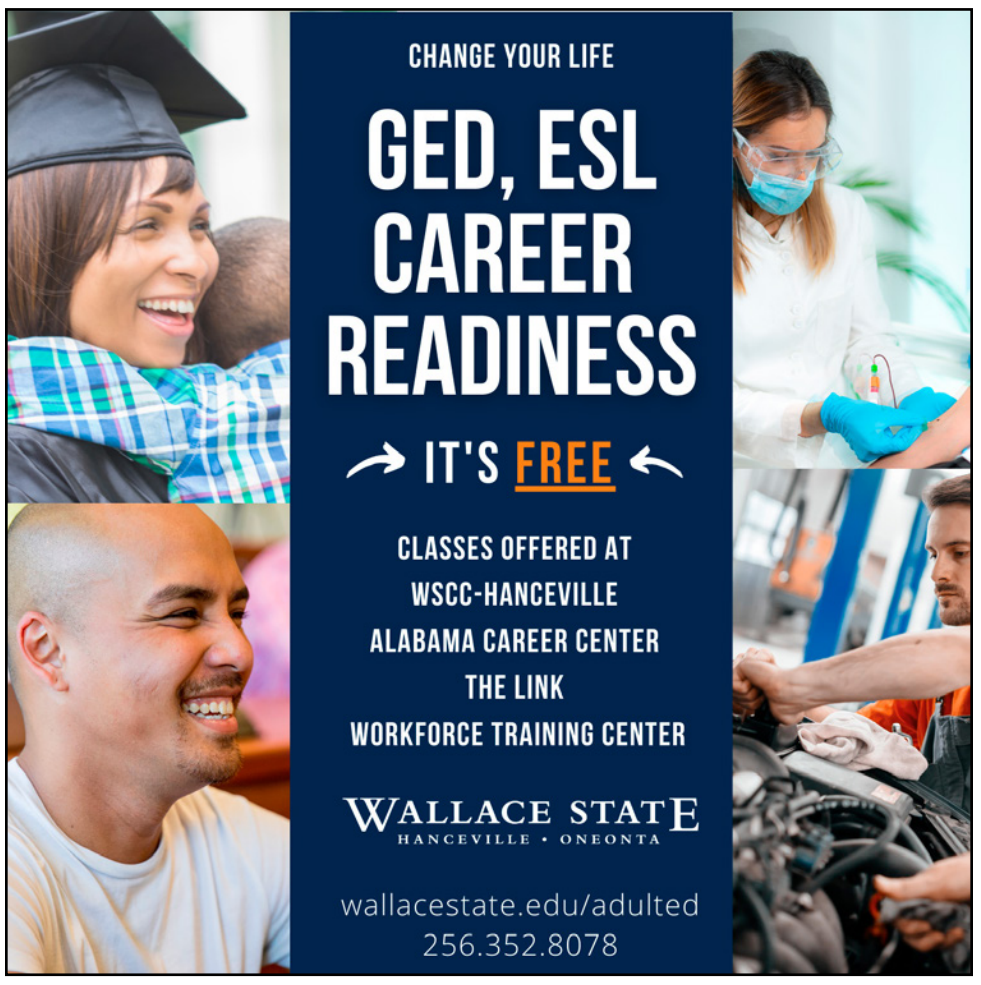
"If we can continue to do what this school did for me," Kress Self said, "then we will continue to be one of the greatest blessings in the lives of children and their families. From the education to the memories made, St. Paul's Lutheran School will forever be the most special place for me, and I will continue to support, defend and fight to keep this school operating."

St. Paul's Lutheran School is honored to recognize Linda Kress Self for a lifetime of faithful service, Christian witness and dedication to education. Through her example, she embodies the very spirit of the IMPACT Award: to serve, teach and inspire others for the glory of God.

Event details
• St. Paul's Lutheran School Benefit Dinner & Auction
• Date: Friday, April 18, 2026
• Location: Cotton Creek, Cullman, Alabama
• Tickets on sale: Feb. 1, 2026
• Follow for updates: https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsSchoolCullman

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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
• 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. 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
• 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.

2025 Cullman County Cheerleading Competition
Saturday, Nov. 15, at 10 a.m. at Fairview High School's Joe Shults Gymnasium. Doors open at 9. Tickets are $8 (cash only) at the door. Only coaching cards can be used at entry; no teacher badges. Concessions available. People's Choice donations accepted at the door.

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."

HUGE 1-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION
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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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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 15, 2025

Senior (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission on Aging will be making local seniors' Christmas seasons extra special through "Santa for Seniors," a program created to provide Christmas spirit and support to the community.

Cullman Commission on Aging Customer Service Representative Ava King said the idea was simple — to make sure every homebound senior in the program received a personally selected Christmas gift — not a random present, but something they truly wanted.

"Each homebound senior receives a short form to fill out, sharing a little about themselves — their interests, and items on their wish list," King said.

"Once those forms are returned, local businesses, churches and individuals can 'Adopt a Senior,' choosing an ornament from a Christmas tree that lists one senior's name and their wishes."

King shared there's something truly special about the Christmas season in Cullman County, but for many of the hometown seniors who can no longer leave their homes, Christmas magic can sometimes feel far away.

"At the Cullman County Commission on Aging, we are blessed with the opportunity to serve these very seniors through our home-delivered meal program, in partnership with the Alabama Department of Senior Services (ADSS), the North Central Alabama Regional Council of Governments (NARCOG), the Cullman County Commission and the United Way of Cullman County," King said.

"Each day, a warm, nutritious meal is delivered right to their door. But over time, our volunteers have discovered that what means even more than the food is friendship. As volunteers stop by each day, they learn about the lives of these remarkable seniors. They hear their stories, their worries, and sometimes, their wishes — things as simple as warm socks, a cozy blanket or a favorite brand of lotion they can no longer afford.

"What began as a daily meal delivery became something more profound: a window into their hearts and their needs. And out of that compassion, 'Santa for Seniors' was born."

King said, from there, the real fun begins.

"Gifts are bought, wrapped with care and packaged with love," King said. "Then, just before Christmas, our staff and volunteers deliver the presents — along with plenty of hugs, laughter and holiday cheer."

There are several ways the community can help make Santa for Seniors a success:

- **Adopt a senior:** If your business or organization would like to host a Christmas tree, the COA will provide ornaments — one ornament equals one senior. Each ornament includes that senior's wish list.

- **Donate financially:** Every dollar makes a difference. No amount is too small or too large when it comes to bringing joy to someone's Christmas morning.

- **Wrap gifts:** Wrapping day is one of the happiest events of the season! The COA needs plenty of helping hands to make sure every gift is beautifully wrapped, so seniors can experience the anticipation and joy of unwrapping a special gift picked just for them.

King said each of their full-time senior centers delivers meals to multiple homebound seniors five days per week. On average, they serve around 140 homebound seniors across the county through the following locations:

- Colony Senior Center — 12980 Alabama Highway 91, Hanceville, AL 35077

- Crane Hill Senior Center — 15140 County Road 222, Crane Hill, AL 35053

- Cullman Senior Center — 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW, Cullman, AL 35058

- Fairview Senior Center — 660 Welcome Road, Cullman, AL 35058

- Hanceville Senior Center — 209 Michelle St. NW, Hanceville, AL 35077

- Holly Pond Senior Center — 2211 Lions Park Road, Holly Pond, AL 35083

- West Point Senior Center — 3990 County Road 1141, Vinemont, AL 35179

"Our 2025 goal is to reach every homebound senior in our program — that's 140 seniors, with an estimated cost of $100 per senior, for a total goal of $14,000," King said.

"Santa for Seniors is more than a program — it's a reminder that compassion still shines brightest in small towns like ours.

"It's neighbors helping neighbors, churches and businesses stepping up and volunteers wrapping not just gifts, but love. Because at the end of the day, Christmas isn't just about what's under the tree — it's about the hearts we touch and the joy we share."

King shared how to get involved:

"We are inviting local businesses to set up a Christmas Tree decorated with special ornaments. Each ornament will represent one of our homebound seniors. One ornament = one senior. On the back of each ornament, you'll find a wish list and clothing sizes personally selected by that senior to help guide your gift shopping. Gifts should be wrapped and delivered to the Commission on Aging by Dec. 3. If needed, we're happy to come by and pick them up. If you need wrapping supplies, just let us know — we'll bring some your way. If any of your team would like to help deliver the gifts, we'd love to have you join us during the week of Dec.8-12. A friendly smile and a kind word can mean so much."

For more information, please contact Ava King at the Cullman County Commission on Aging at 256-734-1241 or aking@co.cullman.al.us.

Whaley, Rainwater, Golden honored at Super Citizen ceremony

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Left to right are Lt. Chad Whaley, Sgt. Jeff Rainwater and Deputy Blake Golden.

CULLMAN, Ala. — A special event was held at Temple Baptist Church in Cullman on Wednesday, Nov. 12: the Super Citizen Culmination Ceremony. Three members of the Cullman County Sheriff's Office were among the honorees.

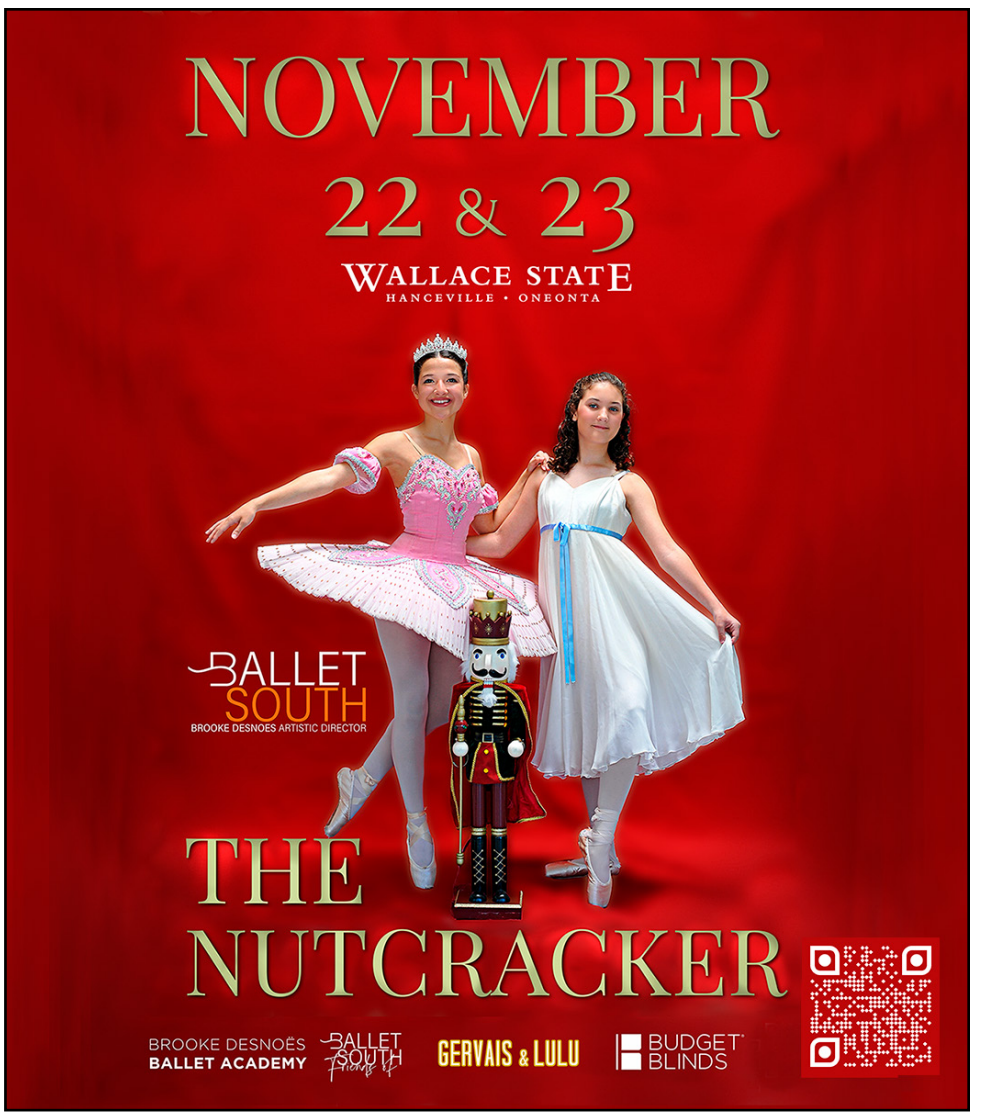
Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry said fifth graders from across Cullman County participated in the Liberty Learning Foundation's Super Citizen Program.

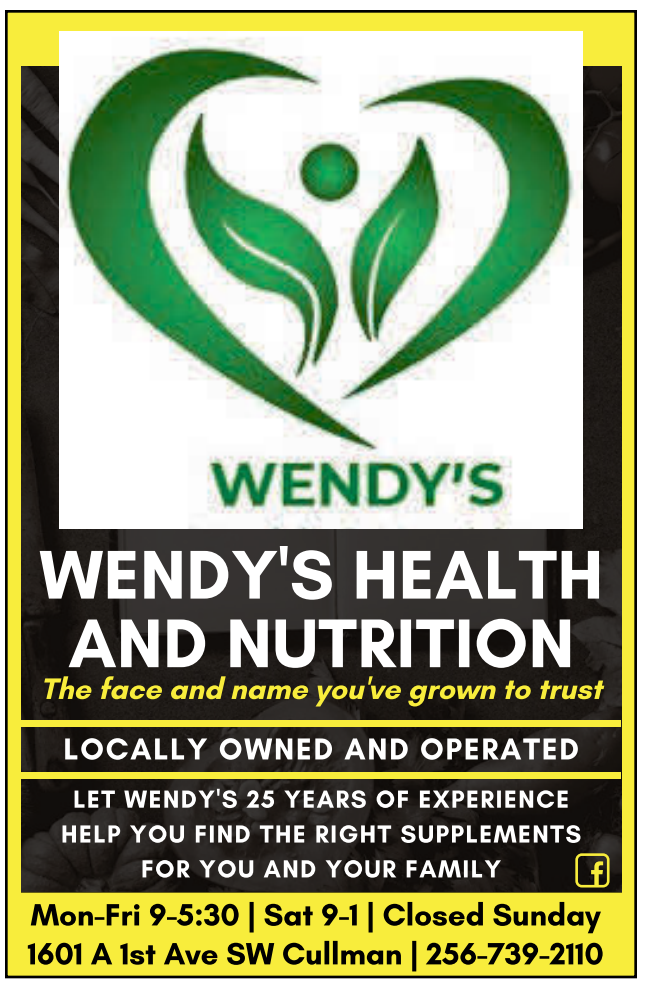
"This wonderful program teaches students about their roles and responsibilities as citizens of the United States — instilling character, community service and civic awareness," he said. "Each participating school selects a 'Torch Hero' to receive the Super Citizen Award, recognizing individuals who make a positive impact in their community."

CCSO Deputy Blake Golden, Sgt. Jeff Rainwater and Lt. Chad Whaley were chosen by students from Fairview, Harmony and Hanceville as their Torch Heroes.

Said Gentry, "A heartfelt thank you to all the students, teachers and administrators for recognizing these deputies and for promoting the values of citizenship and service within our schools."According to the Liberty Learning Foundation website, "Liberty Learning Foundation is a non-profit organization facilitating active civics and character programs in K-12 classrooms and orchestrating immersive events that empower schools, parents, local leaders, and businesses to take ownership of the future of the community and country."

About its Super Citizen Program for grades 3-5, it says, "The Super Citizen Program makes learning history, civics, character, financial literacy and career readiness exciting. Our immersive learning experiences teach students to become responsible, outstanding citizens."











WALLACE STATE

SMAW winners from left: Bevill State Community College Welding Instructor Danny Taylor, third-place winner William Rogers of Bevill State Community College, second-place winner Carlos Becerro of Calhoun Community College, first-place winner Kevin Salas of Calhoun Community College, Lee Aurand-Hosey of SAJAC-Boilermakers, Wallace State Community College-Hanceville Welding Department Chair Randy Hammond and TVA Labor Relations Manager Josh Kennedy.



WALLACE STATE

FCAW winners from left: TCAT-Hohenwald Welding Instructor Derick Carroll, third-place winner Matti McDonald of TCAT-Hohenwald, second-place winner Anne Sullivan of Calhoun Community College, first-place winner Cavan Love of TCAT-Hohenwald, Lee Aurand-Hosey of SAJAC-Boilermakers, Wallace State Community College-Hanceville Welding Department Chair Randy Hammond and TVA Labor Relations Manager Josh Kennedy.



WALLACE STATE

GTAW (tube) category winners from left: Second-place winner Justin Malachi Newton of Calhoun Community College, TCAT-Chattanooga Welding Instructor Alan Moles, first-place winner Nicholas Hoodenpyle of TCAT-Chattanooga, Lee Aurand-Hosey of SAJAC-Boilermakers, Wallace State Community College-Hanceville Welding Department Chair Randy Hammond, TVA Labor Relations Manager Josh Kennedy and Mitch Brown of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. Third-place winner Alan Rocha of Northeast Alabama Community College is not pictured.

Wallace States hosts TVA Welding Competition

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — More than 50 vocational students from across Alabama and Tennessee gathered at Wallace State Community College on Friday, Nov. 14, for the second annual TVA Welding Competition. The event was hosted at the WSCC's Center for Welding Technology and was sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority, with support from the Boilermakers Union.

Melanie Patterson, welding instructor at Wallace State's Hanceville campus, said the competition serves as an essential recruiting tool. "TVA expects to need around 500 welders in the next three years. They're here looking for people who can work for them," she said.

Contestants participated in three welding categories: GTAW pipe welding, SMAW stick welding and FCAW flux-core welding. Judges selected the top entries in each division. Patterson said the competition mirrors the high-pressure environment students will face on job sites. "It's real-world pressure: deadlines, performance and competing with others."

Students traveled from multiple community colleges across north Alabama and Tennessee, gaining exposure to potential employers and making industry connections. Many could secure job opportunities quickly. "If they're interested in the Boilermakers, some could be working by next month," Patterson said. At the conclusion of the event, Calhoun Community College walked away with the most winners.

She said that welding remains one of the most stable and high-paying skilled trades. She said a former student and recent Wallace graduate who competed last year is already earning more than $45 an hour. "The outlook is robust. There's a tremendous shortage of welders right now."

Wallace State's four-semester welding program takes approximately 16 months to complete and costs around $13,000, which includes the cost of equipment. "If students will invest in themselves and show up every day, this can be a lifelong career," Patterson said.

Christmas (from Front)

Lauren Estes
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CULLMAN, Ala. — This year, attendees will be able to enjoy an all-in-one experience at the seventh annual Christmas at the Grotto, Cullman Christkindlmarkt and 23rd annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park, beginning Nov. 20.

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism; Cullman County Parks and Recreation; and the Ave Maria Grotto have joined forces to offer a free shuttle service attendees can use to move among these amazing Christmas destinations.

CPRST Executive Director Nathan Anderson said the Christkindlmarkt has quickly grown into one of the most visited Christmas destinations in the South, and with that growth, parking has become a challenge during peak times.

"This partnership shows what can happen when our community works together to find creative solutions," he said. "By linking the Christkindlmarkt with two major Christmas attractions, Winter Wonderland and the Grotto, visitors can experience more of what makes Cullman special while helping reduce congestion downtown."

Cullman County Parks and Recreation Director Kenneth Cornelius said Sportsman Lake's Winter Wonderland has grown into one of north Alabama's favorite Christmas traditions, drawing thousands of families each year.

"Guests can drive through over 2 million Christmas lights and displays and then park and be shuttled to enjoy the Christkindlmarkt and the Grotto, all in one trip," he said. "This partnership builds on our success by connecting three major holiday attractions and giving visitors more ways to experience Christmas in Cullman. It's a community effort that makes the season better for everyone."

Roger Steele, director of the Ave Maria Grotto Roger Steele, said when they launched Christmas at the Grotto a few years ago, the goal was to give visitors a chance to experience the world-famous art of Brother Joseph Zoettl in a special way during the Christmas season.

"It has become one of our most popular annual events and continues to grow each year," he said. "Working together with the Christkindlmarkt and Winter Wonderland makes it easier for guests to visit all three attractions and see the full range of what Cullman offers during the holidays."

Cullman County Tourism Bureau Director of Tourism Harmony Heard said Cullman has truly become a destination for holiday travel, and this partnership builds on that momentum.

"By helping fund the shuttle service and promoting these attractions together, we're creating a unified Christmas experience that benefits visitors, businesses and our community," Heard shared. "This is another example of the dedication of our community to provide exemplary experiences for our visitors and guests, and it shows what's possible when everyone works together to make the season special."

Cullman Christkindlmarkt
- www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com

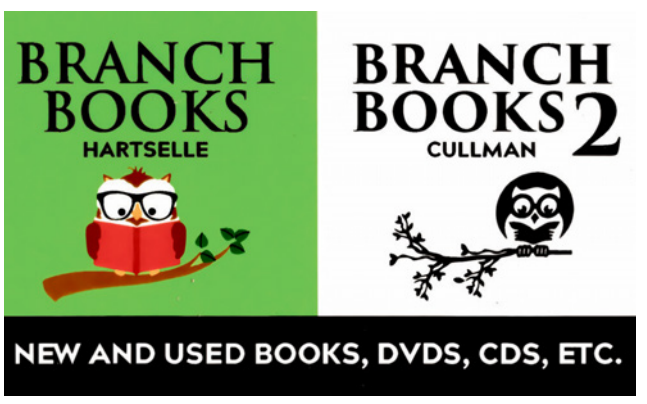
7th Annual Christmas at the Grotto
- www.avemariagrotto.com

23rd Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park
- www.facebook.com/SportsmanLakePark

















Obituary Announcements: Nov. 13-14

Tonia Lanette Goodwin, 53
Tonia Lanette Goodwin, age 53 of Vinemont, passed away on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at Cullman Regional. She was born, April 1, 1972, to Wayne Tidwell and Carrie Tidwell. She was preceded in death by her father, Wayne Tidwell and nephew, Dylan Harris. Survivors include her daughter, Madison Goodwin; son, Jackson Goodwin; mother, Carrie Tidwell; sister, Kristy Harris; Niece. CarrieAnn Harris; great niece, Sophia Giles and a host of family and friends. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Sister Mary Michael, 94
Sister Mary Michael of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, passed away at the age of 94 on Monday, November 10, 2025, at the Our Lady of Angels Monastery in Hanceville, Alabama. She was born on February 25, 1931, in Albert, West Virginia to the late Joseph Shinosky and Helen Shinosky. Funeral Mass will be held at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Alabama. On Friday, November 14th a visitation for family, friends and the public will begin at 3 p.m. The recitation of the holy rosary will follow at 7 p.m. On Saturday, November 15th the funeral mass will begin at 10 a.m. with the entombment following in the lower church. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Hanceville Funeral Home.

Louise Hendrix Foust, 91
Ms. Louise Hendrix Ergle Foust (January 27, 1934 - November 11, 2025) passed away peacefully in her sleep on Tuesday morning at Madison Manor Nursing Home in Huntsville. Louise was preceded in death by her daughter, Judy Glanders, her husband, the father of Judy, Paul Ergle and her husband Dwight Foust, her parents, William P. and Annie Miller Hendrix, her brothers, Gordon (Norma) and Cranford (Sadie) Hendrix and sisters, Estelle Hendrix (Martin) Price and Marie (Bill) Hendrix Thompson. She is survived by her, Granddaughter, Michelle Glanders and Grandson, Brett (Sheena) Glanders along with a great granddaughter Addisen Glanders all of Huntsville, Alabama. She is also survived by her Stepsons, Earl (Nan) Foust of Birmingham, Barry (Julie) Foust of Cullman, and Neil Foust of Tokyo, Japan. Louise is also survived by a host of cousins, nieces and nephews. And step-grandchildren Andrew (Lucy) Foust, Katie (Drew) Farmer, Maggie (Keith) Blackwood, Janie (Travis) Linton, and Riley Foust, and step-great-grandchildren Ruby Farmer, Eli Farmer, Cecille Foust, Olivia Blackwood, Avery Blackwood, and Ella Foust. The funeral will be held at her long-term church, Trinity Baptist Church. A Celebration of Life Visitation will be held on November 17, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church - Independent Baptist Church KJV, located at 1701 Childhaven Rd NE, Cullman, AL 35055, US. The Celebration of Life Funeral Service will follow at the same venue from 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. A Committal Service will take place at Cullman City Cemetery, located at 9th St SW, Cullman, AL 35055, US, from 2 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. on the same day. Special appreciation to the members and staff of Madison Manor Nursing Home. Following the graveside service, a Celebration of Life luncheon will be held for family and friends at the Trinity Baptist Church. To leave condolences for the family, please visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Imogene Drake, 84
Imogene Drake, a beloved and devoted resident of Vinemont, Alabama, passed away on November 11, 2025, at the age of 84. Born on February 13, 1941, Imogene was a cherished member of her community and family, known for her resilient spirit. She is survived by her daughters, Elaine Drake, Wanda Drake, and Tasha (Carlos) Flanigan; her brother, Jimmy (Pat) Patterson; her sister-in-law, Clariece Howse; her grandchildren, Kevin Lindsey, Sophia Flanigan, and Sadie Pudles; and her great-grandchildren, Emersyn Lindsey and Gavin Lindsey. Imogene was preceded in death by her husband, Will Shay Drake; her mother, Margie Patterson; her father, Roy Patterson; her brothers, Gerald Patterson and Michael Patterson; and her grandson, Jason Lindsey. A visitation will be held at Moss-Service Funeral Home, located at 1901 2nd Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055, on November 14, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Following the visitation, a committal service will take place at Flint Creek Southern Baptist Church, 3048 County Road 1354, Vinemont, AL 35179, from 1 p.m. Imogene Drake will be remembered for her unwavering love and dedication to her family and community. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Dennis Jonathan Nethery, 41
Funeral Service for Dennis Jonathan Nethery, age 41 of Vinemont, will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Dan Ponder and Cody Daniels, officiating; burial at Valley Springs Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Nethery passed away on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at his residence. He was born March 8, 1984, to Dennis D. Nethery and Darlene Bailey Nethery. He was preceded in death by his father, Dennis D. Nethery; brother, Ben Bailey; grandparents, Addie Plylar, James & Eloise Bailey and Dale & Janath McCluskey Survivors include his wife, Tasha Nethery; brother, Josh Knight, parents in law, Becky and Jimmy Taylor; brothers-in-law, Zack and Zane Burney; 2 fur babies, Abbi and Jaxon and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and friends. Jonathan leaves behind his wife of 23 years who he loved dearly. He was a jack of all trades from owning his own car lot to creating, to having his own smoke team, to creating and selling his own seasonings. His smoking teams name is "Succulent Smoke." His favorite hobby was grilling meat and smoking butts on the smoker with them and spending time with his family and friends. He was an active member of Cullman Elks Lodge. Jonanthan had a heart of gold, and he never met a stranger. He was definitely one of a kind. He was loved by so many and will be greatly missed by everyone that knew him. After the service the family would like to extend the invitation to everyone to come and eat at the Cullman Elks Lodge with his family and visit and share memories with his loved ones.

Betty Thomas Keel, 91
Funeral services for Betty Thomas Keel, 91, Vinemont, will be 2 p.m. Sunday November 16th at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Ebenezer Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Ms. Keel was born January 23, 1934, in Center Hill, Florida to the late Efrom and Minnie Lee Thomas. She entered heaven's gates November 11, 2025, from her home in Vinemont, Alabama. Betty was a devoted mother and grandmother who always put her children and grandchildren first. Her love for her family was the cornerstone of her life, and she took great pride in each of them. Betty accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior as a young girl under the godly influence of her parents and grandparents. As a faithful Christian, she was a longtime member of First Baptist Church of Cullman and was also a special guest at Sandy Plains Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia, where she cherished the fellowship and friendships she made. Betty had a competitive spirit that shone through in all she did, whether in games, work, or life itself. She was the domino champion who could rarely be beaten by anyone in her family. She was known for her determination, her intuitiveness, her strength, her laughter and her warm heart. She also had a deep love for lighthouses, finding peace and inspiration in their steadfast light. Some of her happiest memories were made at Daytona Beach and Sanibel Island, Florida, places she truly loved and often visited. Those who knew Betty will remember her as a woman of faith, family, and fierce devotion — someone whose love and light will continue to shine brightly in the hearts of those she leaves behind. Ms. Keel is survived by her children, Beverly Charlene Keel, Hollis Cecil Keel Jr. (Milli), Susan Belinda Keel Byrd, Vanessa Elaine Keel Biggers (Billy); 8 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild; siblings, Mickson Thomas, Kathleen Thomas (Ross Johnson), Roland Thomas (Patricia); and a host of nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Ms. Keel was preceded in death by her siblings, James L. Thomas, Etta Thomas McDaniel, Juanita Thomas Woods, Frank Thomas, Mack Don Thomas, Howard Thomas; her former husband, Hollis Cecil Keel M.D., and former son-in-law, Steven J. Byrd Sr. Serving as pallbearers will be John Keel, Jeffrey Byrd, Kacee Hagemore, Joshua Keel, Eli Keel, and Daniel Champion. The family would like to thank New Beacon Hospice; Amedisys Hospice in Kennesaw, Georgia; Right at Home in Woodstock, Georgia; Pink Hearts Home Care Services in Dallas, Georgia; Diversicare in Arab, Alabama; Hanceville Nursing Home & Rehab Center; Cullman Regional Medical Center; and Doctors M. Machen, B. Gomez, and R. Teague.

Peter Frank Douthit, 86
Peter Frank Douthit, age 86 of Cullman, Alabama passed away November 12, 2025. He was born May 16, 1939, in Gainesville, Florida. Peter is preceded in death by his parents Ruby Killinger and Frank Douthit. He is survived by his wife Donnie C. Douthit; sons Stephen E., James C. and Don F. Douthit; grandchildren Samantha, Melanie, Jenna, Libby, Evan, Kasey and Justin; great grandchildren Jordan, Landon, Addie, Asher and Cameron; and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family. Peter was a U.S Army Veteran. He retired after serving as a lieutenant in the Sarasota Fire Department for 24 years. Post retirement, he and his wife Donnie moved to Cullman, Alabama to be close to two of his sons and their grandchildren. He was an active member of the Daylily Society and the Master Gardeners of Cullman County. He won master gardener of the year and his yard was featured in two different magazines. Peter was an avid hunter and fisherman; he particularly enjoyed doing both with his sons. Peter was a member of the Trimble Fire Department for several years. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and friend and will be missed by all who knew him. The family will receive friends for a visitation Tuesday, November 18, 2025, from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. in the Moss Service Funeral Home chapel. A celebration of life visiting period will be held Wednesday, November 19, 2025, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Burial will follow at Bethsadia Cemetery 1365 CR-421 Cullman, AL 35057 United States. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Eve Marie Vinzant, 79
Funeral services for Eve Marie Vinzant, 79, of Hanceville will be 11:30 a.m. Monday November 17th at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at 2 p.m., at Jefferson Memorial Gardens in Trussville, Alabama. Visitation will be prior to the service from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Vinzant was born August 7, 1946, in Paris, France. She passed away November 9, 2025, in Birmingham, Alabama. Eve never met a stranger — her warm personality and quick sense of humor could light up any room. She was known for her strong work ethic and determination, always giving her best in everything she did. Family was at the center of Eve's life. She especially cherished her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, finding great joy and pride in every moment spent with them. Her love for her family was steadfast and unconditional, and she will be remembered for the laughter, kindness, and care she shared so freely. Eve's memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved her — a lasting reminder of her strength, humor, and the love she gave so generously. Mrs. Vinzant is survived by her children, Lisa Muncher (Scot), David Vinzant; grandchildren, Jonah Muncher (Aubra), Elijah Muncher (Rachel), Caleb Muncher (Amber); great grandchildren, Ezra Muncher, Holland Muncher; and a host of cousins and friends. Mrs. Vinzant was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry Vinzant; parents, William Huff & Marie Huff; and her sister Nicole Huff. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Vinzant family.

Edwin Calvert, 91
Funeral service for Edwin Calvert, 91, of Cullman will be at 1 p.m., Tuesday, November 18th, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Bowman's Chapel Cemetery, Minister Kent Persall officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 11-1 p.m. on Tuesday. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Calvert passed away Wednesday, November 12th, 2025, at Huntsville Hospital. He was born November 9. 1934 to Ofel and Margrette Millicent Speegle Calvert. He retired from serving his country in the United States Air Force. He was an active member of the Cattlemen's Association and was a volunteer fireman and rapid responder "Trimble 05". He was a lab tech in the military and taught lab at Wallace until he retired. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 61 years, Wilma 'Betty' Calvert; a son, Matt Calvert; brothers, Denny Calvert, James Garren Calvert, Norman Calvert. Survivors include his children, Suzette (Mark) Williams, Kip (Terry) Calvert; daughter-in-law, Esther Calvert; grandchildren, Brandon (Karissa) Calvert, Chris (Amy) Calvert, Alexis Persons, Evan Calvert, Matt Calvert, Alysa Calvert, Alexandria Calvert, Alivia Calvert Alaina Calvert, Heath (Amanda) Williams, Austin Williams, Tiffany Williams; 17 great-grandchildren; brothers, Frank (Vergie) Calvert, Greg (Kathy) Calvert; family and friends. Pallbearers will be Brandon Calvert, Christopher Calvert, Evan Calvert, Zayden Calvert, Matt Calvert, Heath Williams. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Dianne King, 80
Funeral service for Dianne King, 80, of Cullman will be at 1 p.m., Wednesday, November 19th, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Mt. Tabor Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 12-1 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. King passed away Thursday, November 13, 2025, at the Folsom Nursing and Rehab. She was born August 1, 1945. Dianne loved spending time with her family and friends. Many thanks to the Folsom Center for the love and care given to her. She was preceded in death by her parents, Rex and Lavatha Long; her husband, Billy Ray King; her son-in-law, Blake Stevens. Survivors include her daughter, Michelle Stevens; grandchildren, Macy (Jack) Sellers, Christophr (Ashli) Millsap; great-grandson, Charlie Millsap; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Ella Faye Lewis, 90
Ella Faye Lewis went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at Hanceville Nursing Home & Rehab. Funeral Service for Ella Faye Lewis, age 90 of Vinemont, will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Rev. Tim Kinney officiating; burial at Enon Baptist Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband. An only child, born July 27, 1935, to Robert Ivan Brown and Cloia Holmes Brown. She was devoted to her parents as long as they lived. She was married to her husband, Eston Lewis for 56 years. She was a devoted wife, mother & grandmother. Mrs. Lewis loved yard sales and Snoopy. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Survivors include her daughter, Julia (Mark) York; son, Jeff (Sheila) Lewis; grandchildren, Laura (Kyle) Bonner, Casey Lewis & Chris Lewis. Thank you to Hanceville Nursing Home & Rehab & Southern Care Hospice for the care of our mother.

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: obits@cullmantribune.com

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

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

How do you get your football?

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



When I was a kid, I loved to make crazy faces. I think I learned it from watching the late, great Red Skelton. Skelton, as well as Don Knotts and Jerry Lewis, were masters of facial comedy.

When I demonstrated my own version of facial comedy, Mama always told me if I didn't quit, my face was going to freeze that way. If you were also a face maker, you probably heard the same thing.

Recently, during the current battle of the television-streaming wars, I squinted at college football games on a 4-inch screen all day long.

The next day, when people at church began asking what was wrong with my eyes, I was afraid Mama's warning had finally come to pass and I my face had frozen in a permanent squint! I had two perfectly good televisions but could not watch the games I wanted to watch on them. You probably know why.

Round one of the fight happened two years ago. Disney went to war with DIRECTV over the channels owned by Disney. That included all the ESPN sports channels and ABC. I could have stayed with DIRECTV and simply found something other than college football to watch.

If we were talking ice hockey that might have been realistic, but college football? That's a big negatory! I jumped ship to YouTube TV and guess what. Well, you probably already know. I said, "Well, maybe they will reach an agreement before Saturday."

I'm not sure which Saturday! Anyway, I found a way to watch the games, but I almost went blind doing so. I watched them on my 4-inch screen (turned sideways) cell phone.

In my mind, I was transported back to an earlier, simpler time. The first television Jean and I bought, during our broke-but-much-in-love early years of marriage, wasn't much larger than that phone. It was a Panasonic with a 9-inch screen that showed only black-and-white pictures.

The sports announcers had to announce the colors the teams were wearing. That television was so small we just picked it up and carried it with us wherever we went. In fact, I think I finally carried it to the attic...where it still resides. Back in those days, there was no such thing as ESPN.

If someone had said they had ESPN, we probably would have thought they believed they could read minds. We only got college football games on Saturdays and they were only on one network. The NFL was televised on Sundays with one bonus game each week on the newly created Monday Night Football on ABC. That was the extent of televised football watching for each week, except on Thanksgiving and New Year's.

Now, I have a couple of televisions that are about the size of the drive-in theater screens that we used to watch. These days, I have to pay to watch my own screens...even though they are in my own house! I can't even slip in through the hedges or hide in the trunk.

I can, however, watch more football games in one Saturday than I probably could watch all season long back then. Every Saturday now is about like bowl season...unless "they" say it isn't!

I guess I'll be switching again. I guess I'll be paying more money again, too. What was it the book of James says about the love of money?

It may be the root of our not getting what we've already paid for, too. It all makes me want to make an ugly face...and pray I don't freeze that way!

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

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Nov. 15, 1945

From the files of Nov. 15, 1945

To and Fro
By EAGLE EYE

Times Square, Broadway and Liberty City are attracting Jackson H. Glover, PhM3c, who is now stationed at Brooklyn, N. Y. He writes the editor of the Tribune that he will be transferred to Norfolk, Va., in the near future.

Two packages of a popular brand cigarette, in their original covers sealed with tin foil and cellophane are among the prized possessions of N. J. Rains. A veteran of World War I, Mr. Rains was in the Veterans Hospital at Montgomery in February, 1943, when Mrs. Frank Dixon handed him four packages of the cigarettes, bearing the date, October, 1942. A few nights later while listening to a radio program Newt heard the announcement that green-wrapped cigarettes had gone to war and would no longer be available to civilians until after victory.

Gift subscriptions to the Cullman Library have been presented by Mrs. L. L. Otwell who is sending "Omnibook", Mrs. Robert Rosson who is sending "Coronet"; Mrs. Bess Morrow who is sending "Reader's Digest" and "Hollands" and Mrs. H. C. Arnold who is sending The National Geographic magazine for a year. An exhibit is on display at the Style Shop this week as a part of the local library book week observance.

Home after 43 months of service, the last ten of which were spent in the Pacific, is Cpl. Clyde Hudson, with two battle stars for fighting with the Winged Victory Division. Cpl. Hudson, who received his discharge at Camp Shelby, Miss., Sunday, Mrs. Hudson (Sue Edwards) and their daughter, Rebecca, left this week for a visit in South Carolina.

A check for $50. has been sent to the Chairman of Crippled Children's Clinic in Birmingham by the Cullman Emblem Club. This money represented part of the $85. profit made by the club on the dance which it sponsored in October.

A Cullman boy, Ernest Wood, who is a student at Snead College at Boaz, gave a summary of the most important international developments within the last two weeks, at the meeting of the International Relations Club on that campus on Monday evening.

It's the Army again for Donald G. Hancock! Pfc. Hancock, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Hancock of Rt. 7, Cullman, who recently returned from Camp Gordon, Ga., with a discharge, has decided that civilian life isn't so much fun after all and has re-enlisted in the regular Army. He will leave on November 30th for Fort McPherson, Georgia.

"What a decade?" emphasized Ben F. Ray, prominent Birmingham attorney, as he reviewed world events during the past ten years in an address about the United Nations organization at the Rotary Club on Tuesday evening. The distinguished speaker was of the opinion that we should share the atomic bomb with all the members of the United Nations. He was introduced at the meeting by Rotarian O. B. Hodges.

While in Cullman last week Fiddlin' Tom Freeman, of Route 1, Bremen, visited the Tribune office and told about having won first prize recently in a fiddling contest at Oakman auditorium. With a big political year coming up, Tom will have plenty of fiddling to keep him busy in '46.

From Hartselle comes the Morgan County High football squad on Friday night for a game with the Cullman County High eleven. Last week the Bearcats fought hard to win over Mortimer-Jordan 28 to 0. The Hartselle team is expected to give our players more opposition than did Mortimer-Jordan, and the local fans are looking for a close score.

CULLMAN ELECTRIC SHOP
IS NOW OPEN FOR
Repairs On All Electrical Appliances
Adjoining Cullman Theater
(Formerly occupied by Cullman Auto Parts)
H. E. PERRY
PHONE 629 n15, 22, 29

POET'S CORNER

Nothing Gold Can Stay | By: Robert Frost, 1874-1963

I would love to hear from you if you enjoy Poet's Corner. randyhale62@yahoo.com

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

NOV. 15

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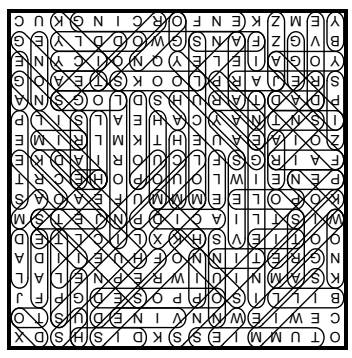
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

NOV. 15

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8	7	5	6	4	1	2	3	9
1	9	2	7	3	5	6	8	4
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ECBA preparing for annual Nursing Home Ministry Christmas Store

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The East Cullman Baptist Association is preparing for its annual Nursing Home Ministry Christmas Store. The program offers nursing home residents the opportunity to experience the joy of giving gifts during the holiday season.

Debbie Nail, director of East Cullman Women on Missions, helps coordinate the effort across four local nursing homes.

She said the ministry exists to give residents, many of whom have little or no personal income, the ability to gift Christmas presents to their loved ones.

"People are so faithful to bring gifts to residents at Christmas, but the residents don't usually have the opportunity to reciprocate.

"This allows them to select two or three items for their family members.

{Our volunteers wrap the gifts for them, so when their loved ones visit, they have something meaningful to give," said Nail.

Local churches collect items for the stores, particularly popular items such as throw blankets, insulated cups, hats, kitchen sets, lotions and other new, practical items, though any gift is appreciated.

Donations are being accepted through the end of the month at the ECBA Ministry Resource Center.

While volunteer opportunities are limited to mission groups already partnered with specific nursing homes, churches and community members can still support the ministry by donating items or contacting the association office for drop-off details.

Nail said the impact of the event is often deeply emotional for both residents and volunteers.

She recalled one moment involving a hummingbird figurine that sat unchosen in the store for several years until a resident, brought in at the last moment, walked straight to it.

"He picked it up and said, 'My wife loves hummingbirds,'" Nail said.

"We all cried. It was clear that the gift had been waiting there for him."

For more information about donating, contact the ECBA Ministry Resource Center at 256-737-9918.



THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

LEGALS

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WWW.INSITEENGINEERING.ORG

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDDERS

Project: 24109.00 – Holly Pond WWTP Upgrades
CWSRF Project No.: CS010848-03
Owner: Town of Holly Pond, Alabama
Engineer: InSite Engineering, LLC.
All qualified bidders are invited to submit a Bid under sealed envelope to the Town of Holly Pond, Alabama for the construction and replacement of a proposed surface aerators, sludge lift station and pumps, storage tank, storage tanks, piping, valves, and all other necessary appurtenances in Holly Pond, Alabama 35083. Owner will receive Bids at the Town of Holly Pond, Guy Hunt Library & Museum Conference Room, located at 60 Lions Park Road, Holly Pond, Alabama 35083 until 2:00 P.M. local standard time on the 18th of December, 2025 at which time and place the Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids not received by the indicated time will not be opened.
Bid Documents can be obtained by the General Contractors and Bidders at www.insiteengineering.org. Others may view the Bid Documents at the office of the Engineer or online at www.insiteengineering.org.

INVITATION TO BID

Project: 24th Street S.E. Water Line Extension
(herein referred to as the 'Project').

Owner: The City of Cullman, Alabama
204 2nd Avenue NE (Physical Address)
Cullman, AL 35055
P. O. Box 278 (Mailing Address)
Cullman, AL 35056-0278

Engineer: St. John & Associates, Inc.
508 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Date: November 15, 2025

Sealed Bids for the completion of the Project located in Cullman County, Alabama will be received at the location of the bid opening until 10:00 am local time on Thursday, December 18, 2025. Any Bids received after the specified time will not be considered. Bids will then be publicly opened at the Cullman City Hall Auditorium, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055.

The Project generally consists of the construction of approximately 3,700 L.F. of 16-inch waterline along 24th Street S.E. Construction will require approximately 500 L.F. of trenchless casing installation for roadway and railroad crossings. Associated work also includes erosion and sediment control, traffic control, site restoration and landscaping of disturbed areas. The Owner requires the Project to be substantially complete in 120 calendar days from the date that the Contract Times commence to run as indicated on the Notice to Proceed.

A prebid conference will be held at 10:00 AM local time on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055. Representatives of Owner and Engineer will be present to discuss the Project.

In order to Bid on the Project, the Bidder shall possess a valid General Contractor's license for work in the State of Alabama. The Contractor's license number shall be clearly indicated on the outside of sealed Bid envelopes. Bidder and its Subcontractors shall comply with all applicable licensing requirements of the Code of Alabama, federal and local Laws or Regulations.

A cashier's check or bid bond payable to the Owner in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, not to exceed $10,000, must accompany the bidder's proposal. The Successful Bidder will be required to furnish the additional bond(s) and evidence of insurance as prescribed in the Bidding Documents. Bidders are directed to the Instructions to Bidders – Document 00 21 15 and the other Bidding Documents.

Bidding Documents may be examined at the office of the Engineer; hard-copy documents may be obtained upon nonrefundable payment of $150.00 for each set of documents, including one set of contract documents, legal requirements and specifications. Digital copies of the bid documents are also available at www.SJAOnline.com for a fee of $50.00. These documents may be downloaded by selecting this project from the 'Planroom' link. For assistance and free registration, contact QuestCDN at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com.

Bid shall be submitted on the Bid Form provided. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days from the date of the opening of Bids.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids and to waive any informality in the bidding.

By: The City of Cullman, Alabama
Mr. Woody Jacobs, Mayor

PURSUANT TO ALABAMA CODE 32-13-1, EARLS BODY SHOP INC. WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES ON SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION THE VOLLOWING VEHICLES :

DATE 01/06/2026
TIME 7:00: AM
LOCATION: 2251 DECATUR AVE NW
CULLMAN AL 35058

2010 NISSAN	MAXIMA	1N4AASAPXAC846944
2006 HONDA	CRV EX	SHSRD788X6U400987
2015 JEEP	RENEGADE	ZACCJABT6FPB78909
2005 TOYOTA	MATRIXBASE	2T1KR32E45C404702
2013 HYUNDAI	SONATA LTD	5NPEC4AC6DH723003
2020 RAM	**1500 CLASSIC**	3C6JR6DGXLG224677
2009 TOYOTA	COROLLA	1NXBU40E99Z093733

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
PATRICIA F. HURLEY,
Deceased.
Case Number: PC2025- 379

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Patricia F. Hurley, Deceased

Letters Of Administration, having been granted to the undersigned on the 4th day of November, 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.

Tracie M. Hurley Clarke
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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
JUDY LARAE GOFORTH,
DECEASED.
CASE NO.: PC2025-359

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to **ERIN G. ADAMS**, as Personal Representative of the Estate of **JUDY LARAE GOFORTH**, deceased, on the 4th day of November, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Erin G. Adams
Personal Representative

Amanda H. Schafner
Attorney for Petitioner
Schafner Law Group
5000 Grantswood Road, Suite 120
Birmingham, Alabama 35210
P/T: (256) 490-3004
E: amanda@schafnerlaw.com

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
Cullman County, Alabama

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Completion of Public Works Projects (Over $50,000)
Pursuant to Ala. Code §39-1-1 (1975), notice is hereby given that REV Construction, Inc. has completed its contract with Hanceville Water Works & Sewer Board, for the Phase I,II,III Sewer Rehabilitations CWSRF Project No.. CS010390-07; GMC Project No. CHUN230005(1). Any person(s) having a claim against the project should notify, Goodwyn Mills Cawood, LLC, 117 Jefferson Street North Huntsville, AL 35801. All claims should be filed within 30 days of the first publication of this notice.

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 RE: THE ESTATE OF
GEORGE ALLIN WHITE,
Deceased.
CASE NO.: PC2025-384

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to GREG HOWSE, as Personal Representative of the Estate of GEORGE ALLIN WHITE deceased, on the 29th day of October 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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 be barred.

Greg Howse
Personal Representative

Atty for Personal Representative:
Pamela E. Nail
200 Second Avenue S.W.
Cullman, Al. 35055
Telephone: (256) 734-3342

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 CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
FRED M. HALE,
Deceased.
CASE NO.: PC2025-300

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to CLARA M. LEVERICH as Personal Representative of the Estate of FRED M. HALE deceased, on the 12th day of November, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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.

CLARA M. LEVERICH
Personal Representative

Atty for Petitioner:
Amanda Schafner with Schafner Law
5000 Grantswood Road, Suite 120
Irondale, Alabama 35210

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

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA