

The Cullman Tribune

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WORKING FOR YOU!



SENATOR
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PD. POL. ADV. GUDGER FOR SENATE
314 2ND AVE. SE, CULLMAN 35055

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Alton Lee Davis, Aaron John Davis, Brandon Lee Davis, Columbus Theodore Davis , Betty Engel Newman, Billy Bob Nooner, Dorothy Virginia Grimmett, Fred P. Morris, Daniel Lee Verner, Lena Ruth Bibby Littlefield, LTC Johnnie R. Strickland, AUS, (RET), Donna Eileen Maddux, Mark Steven Whisenhunt

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WEATHER

77 56

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

PARTLY SUNNY

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– SPORTS –

2 nationally ranked (local) powerhouses to clash tonight at Wallace State

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Cullman City Council approves moratorium on R-4 residential developments

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council met Monday, Nov. 17, and moved through a full agenda that included a moratorium on new R-4 residential developments.

Resolution 2026-36 establishes a temporary moratorium on new R-4 residential development in the city of Cullman. The resolution cites rapid and substantial growth that has increased demands on municipal services, infrastructure and public safety.

City officials will use the moratorium period, which may last up to one year, to review subdivision regulations, zoning ordinances and development policies. Any R-4 projects approved before Nov. 17 are grandfathered and may proceed.

City Zoning defines R-4 as "Single-Family and Multi-family Residential District," and says, "The purpose of the R-4 District is to protect existing and enable development of new sin-

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Christmas Christkindlmarkt opens today!



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Christkindlmarkt will take place Nov. 20-Dec. 23 downtown. Photo shows preparations underway earlier this week.

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Each year from the end of fall and start of winter, Cullman transforms into a living reflection of its German heritage. From the lighting of the Weihnachtspyramide, to the festive Christkindlmarkt Parade and Tree Lighting to the Christkindlmarkt itself, the season is more than decoration; it's a communitywide celebration rooted in tradition. And it starts Thursday, Nov. 20!

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson said authenticity is the foundation for every festival, including the Cullman Christkindlmarkt. He said the department has invested a great deal of time and research to ensure it.

"We lean on a committee with extensive experience visiting and studying German Christmas markets," Anderson said. "By curating the market at the vendor level, every booth and experience enhances the overall atmosphere and stays true to our German heritage."

That sense of tradition doesn't mean the festival stands still. As the Christkindlmarkt has grown, CPRST has worked carefully to introduce new attractions that feel at home alongside long-standing customs.

"The heart of the market is honoring long-standing German traditions," he said. "Any new attraction we introduce is carefully chosen because it deepens the authentic experience found in European markets. While something may be 'new' for Cullman, it's

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Bond revoked for man facing 3 murder counts in fiery Hanceville crash



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Ramon Maldonado-Vasquez

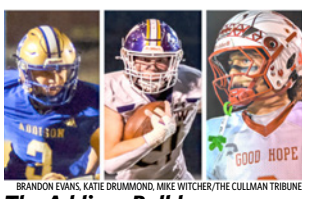
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23rd annual Winter Wonderland display opens today at Sportsman Lake Park

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PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Bulldogs, Aggies, Raiders gearing up for quarterfinal matchups



BRANDON EVANS, KATIE DRUMMOND, MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Addison Bulldogs, Fairview Aggies and Good Hope Raiders will play Thursday night, Nov. 20, 2025.

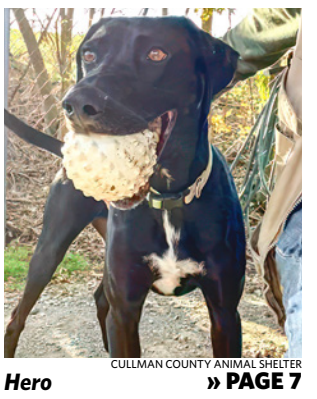
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Berlin council talks farmers' market project

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PET OF THE WEEK

Hero the happy hiker



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Hero

» PAGE 7



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 19

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 19, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Nov. 12

- retail theft of property-2nd degree; organized retail theft; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $865; Olive St. SW

Nov. 13

- criminal trespass-1st degree; person; Camelia Cir. SW
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $64; Olive St. SW

Nov. 17

- theft of property-3rd degree; person; cash
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $770; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS

Nov. 17-18

Price, Kevonta D.; 30

- financial exploitation of elderly-2nd degree
- elder abuse & neglect-3rd degree
- theft of property-3rd degree

Carter, Tiffany; 40

- financial exploitation of elderly-2nd degree
- elder abuse & neglect-3rd degree
- theft of property-3rd degree

Hays, Daniel J.; 48

- theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – run red light
- FTA – insurance violation (2 counts)
- FTA – expired tag

Tucker, Lisa M.; 45

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – public intoxication (4 counts)
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Woods, James I.; 56

- criminal mischief-3rd degree

Scott, April L.; 46

- theft of property-4th degree

Twitty, Zion J.; 24

- domestic violence-3rd degree

Reynolds, David J.; 44

- attempt to elude
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jackson, Henry G.; 30

- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Lee, Justin B.; 42

- possession of controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)

Jones, Alex M.; 38

- possession of controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Wilson, Bruce L.; 47

- theft of property-4th degree

Wilson, Kathryn M.; 52

- theft of property-4th degree

Woods, Jennifer; 39

- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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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.

Cullman County Republican Women Monthly Meetings
Second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Cullman VFW. President Cathi Bradford: "We are going to begin training to track legislation in Montgomery. If you need information, you can directly message me on Facebook." Full meals at 5:30. Meetings start at 6.

The Crossing Food Bank
The Crossing is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m. We are located at 1503 Second St. SW, Cullman (in the Housing Authority).

Cullman Low Vision Support Group Meetings
Third Tuesday of every month, from 10-11:30 a.m., at the Alabama Career Center, 1201 Katherine St. NW in Cullman. Contact Olivia Wade, case manager, at 256-389-2502.

Baileyton Bargain Days
First Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the old Baileyton fire station next to the town's park. Beauty and health products, toys, home goods, pet items, food and many everyday items. A donation of $20 will allow a shopper to fill up a bag, and for $40 a shopper can fill a large box. Some of the items of greater value will require a larger donation. There will be some restrictions and product limits on the items. Cash and checks accepted. Proceeds will be used for park improvements and capital improvements for the town.

Alcoholics Anonymous
The Grace of God group of Alcoholics Anonymous has open AA meetings (all are welcome) Mondays and Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. at the Carriage House, located next to Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE Cullman. Contact phone numbers: 256-347-1097, 256-841-2209 or 256-708-1340

Alcoholics Anonymous
Sundays, 3 p.m. at Cullman First Church of the Nazarene, 5415 Alabama Highway 157. CLOSED literature study. Handicap accessible.

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings
Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m., at the Donald E. Green Adult Active Center, 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW. The first meeting is free. TOPS, a national program, is a hands-on/pounds-off approach to weight loss and management through weekly meetings providing information, accountability, support and encouragement where you make the changes that make sense to you.

Cullman NAR-ANON Group Meetings
- The NAR-ANON family group meetings are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. We offer Help by sharing our experiences, strength and hope. We carry the message of hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own attitudes.
- We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a religious one, but a spiritual way of life. Meetings will be held at The Ruehl Building (Family Life Center of St. John's Church) Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m.
- Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

Cullman Al-Anon Meetings
The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of friends and family whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. The Cullman Serenity Al-Anon Group meets each Monday at noon at 1519 St. Joseph Dr. NE. There is also a Zoom meeting each Tuesday at noon. The Courage to Change Al-Anon Family Group meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church at 305 Arnold St. NE in the Carriage House, located between the church and the Arnold House on the corner. For more information call 256-734-2231 or 256-531-4429.

The Pantry at The Link
- 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055
- Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Closed for lunch noon-1 p.m.

Shirley Burden Public Library – Hanceville
- Families are invited to join us for fun at the library! Library is open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5p.m., closed from noon-1 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us on Facebook for weekly event details.
- Wednesday, 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
- 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.

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!

23rd Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park
Nov. 20-23, 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!

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!

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!

Arley Women's Club Annual Fall Bake Sale
- Friday, Nov. 21, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Bank First - 6461 County Road 41, Arley; Traditions Bank - 19 Helicon Rd., Arley; Bank of Walker County - Curry Highway
- Saturday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m.-noon: Traditions Bank - 19 Helicon Road, Arley
- Let the fabulous bakers of AWC help with your holiday preparations. This event is sponsored by the Arley Women's Club, Inc, a 501 c(3) nonprofit organization. 100% of all funds raised will stay in the community.

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.

Community Thanksgiving Meal
Wednesday, Nov. 26, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Good Hope High School lunchroom. Dine in or carry out (five max). Call ahead for delivery in the Good Hope city limits: 256-739-3757.

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.

Baldwin Heights Baptist Church Warm Clothing Giveaway
Sunday, Dec. 7, from 2-4 p.m. The church is located at 2489 U.S. Highway 278 West in the Baldwin community, which is about 2 miles from Cullman.

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."

The Link to host free Thanksgiving Meal Kit Drive-Thru Nov. 22

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Link of Cullman County will host a free Thanksgiving Meal Kit Drive-Thru on Saturday, Nov. 22, offering families a way to bring a full holiday meal to their table during a season that can be financially difficult for many. The drive-thru event will run from 10 a.m.-noon, or until supplies run out, with vehicles lining up in the back parking lot of The Link. Attendees are welcome to arrive as early as they want.

Each vehicle will receive one meal kit, with the option to re-enter the line for additional kits intended for separate households. This year, more than 400 kits have been assembled, each stocked with 20 traditional holiday items, including stuffing, gravy, yams, vegetables, marshmallows, boxed sides and more.

Although The Link typically hosts a community meal on the fourth Thursday of each month to serve those in need, the center will be closed for Thanksgiving week to allow staff time to rest. To ensure no family goes without support during the holiday, the organization created this special meal kit distribution in its place.

When asked about why this giveaway was so important to The Link, Community Outreach Coordinator Avery Heis said the goal of the event goes far beyond handing out food.

"It means a lot," Heis said. "We all have heartwarming or even hilarious memories of gathering around the table and sharing a big meal for Thanksgiving or Christmas. Many of our neighbors who come to The Pantry are already struggling, and while these food-based holidays are always really fun, it can be pressuring for our friends who are already feeling food strain. That's where we come in with this."

The meal kits were made possible through the combined efforts of numerous community partners, including local churches, businesses, civic groups and individual donors. "We couldn't do this without our volunteers. Not to this extent," Heis said. "Our local partners have really stepped up to the plate on this one to make sure that our neighbors could have a special experience regardless of their income and that's really what we are all about—loving our neighbor and making sure they are cared for."

Heis said the hope is that families leave with more than just groceries.

"We hope, besides the food, that they leave our parking lot with the feeling that someone cares about them. That someone is rooting for them," she shared. "We hope this special supplemental event makes our neighbors feel a sense of normalcy during what has been a really turbulent time as far as our economy and the SNAP crisis goes. We just want them to feel loved and be able to make those same seasonal memories."

The Link encourages anyone who could benefit from a Thanksgiving meal kit to attend, no questions asked.

For more information, visit The Link's Facebook page or contact the office directly at 256-775-0028 or info@linkingcullman.org.

The Link of Cullman County is located at 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055.

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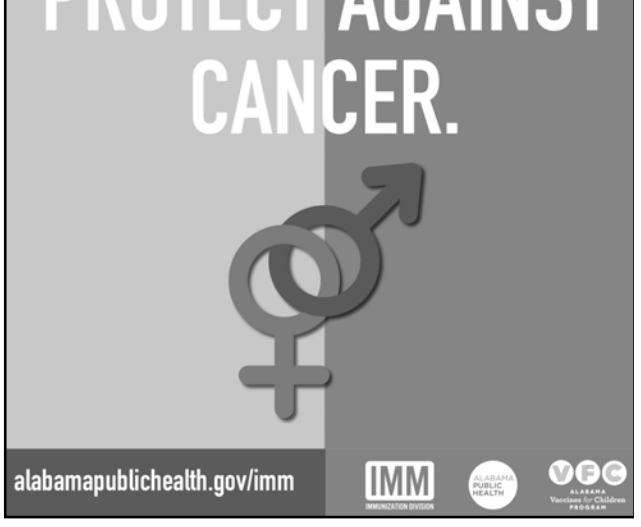
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 20, 2025

2 nationally ranked (local) powerhouses to clash tonight at Wallace State

Wallace State Sports Information

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Basketball fans are in for a treat this Thursday, Nov 20, at 7:30 p.m., when two nationally ranked programs sitting roughly 40 miles apart face off in a high-stakes showdown. The Snead State Community College Parsons, ranked No. 19 in NJCAA Division II, will travel to take on the Wallace State Community College Lions, ranked No. 24 in NJCAA Division I.

This matchup promises intensity and skill, as both teams bring elite-level talent and impressive early-season performances:

- Snead State (NJCAA DII No. 19) enters the game averaging 92.7 points per contest, fueled by a blistering 50.9% field goal percentage and an exceptional 43.5% from beyond the arc. The Parsons dominate the glass with 39.7 rebounds per game, including 14.1 offensive boards, and boast a strong assist-to-turnover ratio of 1.9.

- Wallace State (NJCAA DI No. 24) counters with a high-octane offense of its own, scoring 100 points per game while pulling down 43.3 rebounds per outing. The Lions excel at getting to the line, converting 74.1% of free throws, and play at a fast pace with 86.5 possessions per 40 minutes.

Key statistical edge

- Snead State leads in effective field goal percentage (60.3%), while Wallace State thrives on tempo and rebounding.
- Both teams rank among the top nationally in offensive efficiency, setting the stage for a high-scoring battle.

Game details

- Date: Thursday, Nov. 20, 2025
- Time: 7:30 p.m.
- Location: Wallace State Community College Gymnasium, Hanceville, Alabama
- Admission: FREE!

Fans can expect a thrilling contest between two programs with championship aspirations. Don't miss this opportunity to witness elite NJCAA basketball action!

Tip time is approximate as the game will directly precede the Wallace State women (ranked 10th in NJCAA DI), who will also take on East Mississippi Community College!



WALLACE STATE SPORTS INFORMATION

PREP BASKETBALL

West Point collects road sweep of Hanceville

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Hanceville Bulldogs took on the West Point Warriors in a pair of county games at home on Tuesday night, and West Point took home a pair of very impressive wins on the road. The Lady Warriors dominated the Lady Bulldogs from start to finish, as they ended up rolling past Hanceville, 63-19. After a close first quarter, West Point quickly pulled away in the second, outscoring Hanceville, 22-5, en route to a 61-38 rout of the Bulldogs.

West Point 63 - Hanceville 19 (Varsity Girls)

It didn't take long for Hanceville to get on the scoreboard first, as a three by Kynleigh Farr gave them the early 3-0 lead. West Point answered right back in a big way, as Laklin Shadix scored eight straight points to give them an 8-3 lead. Shadix later drilled a trey from the left wing to increase their lead to 12-3. Caitlee Simmons, Shadix, and Kealie Harbison each hit a basket down low to widen the Lady Warrior lead to 19-3. A rebound and putback by Mary Beth Penn made it 21-4, but a late basket by Kerrigon Moore cut it to 21-6 going into the second period.

Moore scored through a foul and completed the three-point play at the line to make it a 21-9 game early in the second. The Lady Warriors, though, countered with another big run.

Shadix hit a pair of shots, Jaelyn Faulkner put in a fast-break layup, Chloe Hale scored four straight points, Shadix added three more points, and Harbison drained a three to give them a 37-9 lead. Mattie Keith stopped the run with a three on the other end to cut it to 37-12, but Patton Fell knocked down a trey, Kenadi Pagan added a free throw, and Harbison added a basket down low to give the Lady Warriors a commanding 43-12 lead at the half.

Keith knocked down another trey to make it a 45-15 game in the third period. Baskets by Harbison, Jaelyn Faulkner, and Shadix stretched West Point's lead to 53-15, and Camryn Faulkner drained a three to give them a 56-15 lead going into the final quarter. The fourth quarter was run under a hot clock, and the Lady Warriors would go on to defeat the Lady Bulldogs, 63-19.

Shadix led the way for West Point with 22 points. Harbison added 10 points, and Jaelyn Faulkner ended up with nine points. For Hanceville, Keith finished with seven points, and Moore put in five points.

West Point 61 - Hanceville 38 (Varsity Boys)

Nolan Franklin drained a three to put West Point on the scoreboard first, but Drake Bentley scored five straight points for Hanceville to give them a 5-3 lead. Bentley put in a driving layup to keep the Bulldog lead at two at 7-5, but three free throws by Jaxon Shelton gave them the lead right back at 8-7.

Samuel Abney and Shelton traded threes for their respective teams, then Franklin drained four straight free throws to increase the Warrior lead to 15-10. Maddox Chapman scored through a foul and nailed the free throw to complete the three-point play, as West Point took an 18-10 lead into the second period.

Brier Taylor collected a steal and a layup to start out the second quarter for the Warriors, then Shelton scored the next five points to put them ahead, 25-10.

Avery Carnathan scored five in a row for Hanceville to cut it to 25-15, but Shelton and Franklin scored the next 10 points for West Point to make it a 35-15 game.

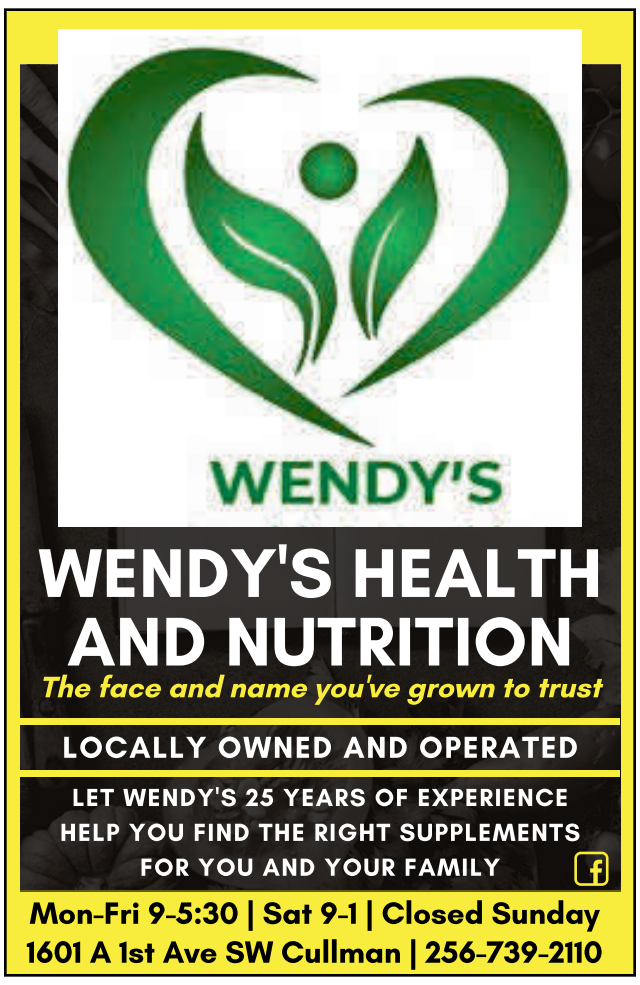
Ayden Ennis buried a three, and Chapman laid it up and in off a turnover to put the Warriors up, 40-15, at the half.

Taylor put in a basket down low to give West Point a 43-15 lead early in the third, and baskets by Shelton and Franklin made it 47-16. Bentley drilled four straight free throws to cut it to 47-20, but Chapman and Shelton finished out the quarter by scoring the final seven points for the Warriors, as they took a 54-21 lead into the final period.

Just like the varsity girls' game, the boys' game was run under a hot clock for the entire fourth quarter, and the Warriors would go on to knock off the Bulldogs, 61-38.

Shelton finished with 20 points for West Point. Franklin added 15 points, and Chapman chipped in with 12 points. For Hanceville, Bentley led the way with 21 points.

The Warriors will head to Gulf Shores on Saturday, and Hanceville will travel to take on Corner Friday night.



FAITH

Local Pastor Todd Greenlee talks preaching style, journey to Christ

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

Todd Greenlee from Cullman currently pastors at Old Zion Church in Nauvoo, Alabama. He started preaching when he was 21 years old. He had initially attended the University of North Alabama to pursue accounting until he found his calling.

"I was 20 years old. I was going to college to get a degree in accounting," Greenlee elaborated. "I thought that was good, easy. I did well in high school, but got to college and figured out quickly that I did not like that. I didn't know what to do with my life."

Greenlee said he imagined this for himself and said, "This looks like it makes money and it looks like I'm going to go this way. I hadn't considered what God had in store. I had never asked those questions."

Greenlee went on to pursue education instead of accounting. He found this was a better fit.

He took a year off for school and worked as a summer school teacher. Eventually, after that year off of school, he also began pursuing computer information technologies.

The university, shortly after Greenlee started the courses and took a liking to them, got rid of the program entirely.

"In the midst of all this I was more involved in church and was pursuing coaching," Greenlee went on.

Not long after, he was asked to teach a class at Highland Park Baptist. He was unsure of what this would start for him, but took the opportunity.

"A few weeks following this I broke down," he said. He didn't know where his life was heading and called his mother and Sunday school teachers to give him direction.

"He met with them a few days later and they came to the conclusion that he was being called to ministry. Twenty-one year old Todd Greenlee went to church that following Sunday and was approached by the pastor and told he would be preaching that Wednesday.

"We ran about 600 people on Wednesday nights," Greenlee said.

"So I skipped class the next two days trying to work up a sermon. Early Wednesday morning I looked over what I had and thought, 'This is absolute garbage. There isn't a coherent thought here.'"

Greenlee said he sat down with his Bible and prayed for God to help him.

"That was the most clear voice of God I have ever heard. Thoughts started to flood in so fast that I had to ask God to slow down," he laughed.



OLD ZION CHURCH

Old Zion Church in Nauvoo, Alabama

From there he accepted a youth pastor position at Highland Park Baptist in Muscle Shoals, which is now Redemption Shoals, and has since pursued ministry. Greenlee currently pastors at Old Zion Church in Nauvoo, Alabama.

He has been there for roughly two years and focuses on exegetical exposition preaching style.

"Exegetical comes from exegesis and it means 'to draw from.' It's opposed to eisegesis, which is 'to put into,'" Greenlee explained. "I explain this like going to a well. If I go to a well and lower a bucket, whatever is in that well is going to be in that bucket. I am going to draw from the scripture and what it says. Eisegesis is more popular nowadays. Preachers will write a sermon to address what's going on around them and find scripture to back it up. That can be problematic, but that's the extreme form of eisegesis."

He continued, "If you go up to that well and say, 'I know this well has Dr. Pepper in it' then I poor a bunch of Dr. Pepper in it and pull it out I am getting out what I am putting into it. That's eisegesis."

To hear Greenlee preach in person, visit Old Zion Church at 1463 Old Zion Road in Nauvoo. Sunday school starts at 10 a.m. and worship at 11. All are welcome.



OLD ZION CHURCH

Pastor Todd Greenlee







THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Ginger Whitworth dies, prompting famous Alabama groundhog's retirement

Staff Reports
Contributor

GRAYSVILLE, Ala. — Ginger Whitworth — the wonderfully eccentric, ditty-singing sidekick of Alabama's beloved, weather-predicting groundhog, Smith Lake Jake — passed away on Nov. 17, 2025, after a brief battle with cancer. She was 76.

"Since childhood, Ginger seemed to have a natural connection with animals," said Ginger's sister, Cyndi Calhoun. "Her heart was always open to any critter, and she devoted her life to loving, protecting and rescuing animals."

Ginger and Heath Whitworth's Graysville home gradually became a sanctuary for unwanted and injured creatures. Locals who could no longer care for a pet, struggled with vet bills or stumbled upon an injured animal often ended up at Ginger's door — usually on the recommendation of the town veterinarian. Her remarkable story eventually carried her all the way to New York City and an appearance on "The Queen Latifah Show."

Around 2005, while driving to Smith Lake, Cyndi discovered a tiny baby groundhog in the middle of the road. She called Ginger, who immediately rushed to the scene, kissed the orphaned marmot on the nose, taught him to walk on his hind legs and named him Smith Lake Jake.

The pair quickly became beloved fixtures at nursing homes, schools, libraries, parades, festivals, fundraisers and Groundhog Day celebrations. Jake even earned a reputation for accurately foretelling baby genders, American Idol winners (including Taylor Hicks) and Super Bowl outcomes. Ginger often wrote and performed songs to accompany his predictions — which, for the record, didn't rely on seeing his shadow. Instead, they depended on whether the hairs on his back were bristled or relaxed.

Like his 138-year-old counterpart, Punxsutawney Phil, Smith Lake Jake knows the secret to exceeding the average celebrity groundhog lifespan. Over the next two decades, Ginger and Smith Lake Jake (I, II and III) — always wearing his signature hat — went on many adventures together.

As Jake's fame grew, he amassed multiple social media accounts, appeared on local television, starred in commercials, and achieved what most weather-predicting animals never will: he made it to the big screen! Fans can spot him as "Colt Lake Jake" about 15 minutes into the 2025 movie "Bad Man" starring Seann William Scott, now available on streaming platforms.

"Mom and Smith Lake Jake were such a joyful pair, and I'm grateful she was able to see his movie debut," said Tam Ewers, Ginger's daughter. "They brought smiles, laughter and connection to so many people and communities, and I want to thank everyone who welcomed them, supported them and loved them over the years."

A Celebration of Life for Ginger will be held on Monday, Nov. 24, at Bells Funeral Home, 2077 Pratt Highway, Birmingham, Alabama. Friends are invited to visit with the family from 10-11 a.m., with the service beginning at 11 a.m.



TAM EWERS
Ginger Whitworth with Smith Lake Jake

Cullman council (from Front)

gle-family and multifamily residential areas at high densities along with nonresidential uses customary to such neighborhoods."

R-4 zoning generally allows higher-density residential development such as townhomes, duplexes and small multiunit buildings. The moratorium pauses new R-4 applications while the City evaluates growth impacts on infrastructure, utilities, traffic, first responders and long-term planning.

Special event request for New Year's Eve
The council approved a special event request from Kela LePre of Traditions Bank for a New Year's Eve celebration on Dec. 31, from 5 p.m.-12:30 a.m. at 109 Second Ave. NW. The application reports plans for live music, a drone display, food vendors and alcohol service.

Attendance is estimated between 500 and 5,000 people. Street closures include Third Avenue Northwest between Harrison Street Northwest and First Street West, along with Harrison Street Northwest, First Street West and Dripping Springs Road Northwest. Five police officers were requested for event coverage.

Committee reports
Councilmembers Chuck Shikle, David Moss, Jason Willoughby, Paul Schaffer and Kim Hall delivered their routine reports, along with Mayor Woody Jacobs.

WildWater lazy river concrete testing
The council approved Resolution 2026-37 authorizing the mayor to enter into a contract with Terracon Consultants, Inc. for inspections and testing at the WildWater Lazy River project. Professional services are capped at $40,000 and cover structural testing and verification during construction.

Downtown streetscape change order
Resolution 2026-38 rejected a proposed $38,000 change order to replace asphalt with concrete and approved Change Order No. 3 for $9,000 to add seven junction boxes and two inlet units.

The adjustment raises the total streetscape contract with Bulls Construction Group to $1,173,051.

The project includes improvements along Fourth Avenue Southwest from U.S. Highway 278 to Fourth Street Southwest and west to Fifth Avenue Southwest.

Police vehicle purchase
Resolution 2026-39 awards the bid for a four-wheel-drive crew cab work truck for the Cullman Police Department to Bill Smith Buick GMC for $49,110.50. Additional bids ranged up to $61,500, with several dealerships declining to submit proposals.

Contract and personnel ordinance updates
The council suspended the rules to advance three ordinances for first reading and approval.

• Ordinance 2026-09 creates Section 2-102, requiring city council approval for any contract binding the city and mandating compliance with state competitive bid and public works laws

• Ordinance 2026-10 creates Section 2-103, authorizing the mayor to execute contracts approved by the council and to implement them without altering cost, scope or terms without further council action

• Ordinance 2026-11 creates Section 26-1, establishing posting, hiring and classification requirements for all municipal positions. It emphasizes transparency, equal opportunity, pay equity and budget authorization for all positions.

Annexations on County Road 490 and Loch Avenue
Two annexation ordinances were introduced for first reading.

• Ordinance 2026-12 annexes 19.37 acres owned by Unconquered Homes LLC on County Road 490 as R-1 Residential

• Ordinance 2026-13 annexes Lot 15 of Loch Landing Subdivision, owned by Eric and Erin Goodrich, as R-1 Residential

Both annexations received favorable recommendations from the City of Cullman Planning Commission.

Public hearing set for Cullman Christian School rezoning
A public hearing was set for Jan. 12, 2026, at 7 p.m. on a request from Cullman Christian School to rezone property at 1803 Beech Ave. SE from M-1 Manufacturing to B-3 Business. The Planning Commission previously recommended approval. The ordinance will be published twice before consideration as required by state law.

Next meetings
The Cullman City Council will meet again on Monday, Dec. 8, and Monday, Dec. 15, 2025, at 7 p.m. at Cullman City Hall. The meetings are open to the public and streamed live on the City of Cullman Facebook page.

R-4 ZONING AT A GLANCE

R-4 zoning generally allows higher-density residential development such as townhomes, duplexes and small multiunit buildings. The moratorium pauses new R-4 applications while the city evaluates growth impacts on infrastructure, utilities, traffic, first responders and long-term planning.

WildWater Lazy River testing
• Terracon Consultants, Inc.
• Not to exceed $40,000

• **Downtown streetscape improvements**
Bulls Construction Group
Revised total: $1,173,051

• **Cullman Police Department truck**
Bill Smith Buick GMC
$49,110.50

• **Annexations**
19.37 acres, County Road 490
1 lot, Loch Avenue Northeast

Berlin (from Front)

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

BERLIN, Ala. — The Berlin Town Council met Monday, Nov. 17, with a good portion of the meeting devoted to discussion about the ongoing Berlin Farmers Market project.

Mayor Patrick Bates acknowledged a bid from Rogers Group to finish the parking lot, saying, "This bid is so low that, technically, we are leaving money on the table."

Bates told the council, "The really good news is where we were looking at spending as much $45,000 out of local funds on this project, we're now looking at only having to spend about $8,000-$9,000 on this project, because the bid is so low that the State is going to pay everything up to $17,500, and we only have to pay half that."

Bates explained that their engineer recommended a request for a change order with Rogers Group to add in the parking lot of the Berlin Farmers Market into those funds.

"I motion to approve that," Councilman Keith Hardman stated.

"I know you are and I'm almost done," Bates laughed. "What that means is that we're about to have $35,000 of what we budgeted for this project still available to spend for doing this asphalt in the parking lot.

"We're gonna have to come up with this other $20,000 in the budget, which I think we can do. But again, this is all contingent on Rogers Group agreeing to the change order."

The council gave conditional approval to award the bid if the change order doesn't exceed $57,500.

Bates then moved to guest Will Edwards with Spectrum Wireless regarding a $1,000 lump sum franchise agreement for the next 50 years.

"This would be a business deal between the Town and Spectrum," Town Clerk Keirstyn Montgomery clarified.

Said Edwards, "This franchise agreement that would pay a lump sum application fee upon acceptance, which would take place of the business license fee and of the franchise fee."

All council members motioned to approve.

Montgomery asked for approval for $500 for the annual pancake breakfast. All council members agreed on this amount.

She clarified that, for anyone interested, Berlin's fifth annual Pancake Breakfast will be held at the Berlin Community Center on Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025, at 7 a.m.

At the beginning of the meeting, Montgomery addressed Bates regarding a social media comment about opening a food pantry.

Bates and fellow councilmembers didn't express or discuss a need for it at this time.

The Berlin Town Council will hold its next meeting on Dec. 15, 2025, at 7 p.m. at Berlin Town Hall, 461 County Road 1615, Cullman, AL 35058.

For more information, contact Town Clerk Keirstyn Montgomery at 256-736-3138 or clerk@berlinal.gov.



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
Left to right are Berlin Mayor Patrick Bates and Councilmembers Donald Gunter, Keith Hardman, Don Bates, Edith Stevenson and Steve Clark.

Wallace State hosting 'The Nutcracker' Nov. 22-23

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College will host Ballet South's production of "The Nutcracker" Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 22-23, at the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre.

The annual event is an unofficial kickoff for the holiday season and features dozens of dancers from the community.

"The Nutcracker" follows Clara as she travels in dreams to the Land of the Sweets where she meets life-size toy soldiers, the Sugar Plum Fairu, the Dew Drop Fairy and more.

Shows will be held at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 23.

Admission is $22 for adults and $15 for children. Tickets can be purchased at www.ballet-south.org.

Next on the Fine and Performing Arts schedule for the Fall 2025 semester is the annual Christmas Spectacular on Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. in the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre.

For more information about Wallace State's Fine and Performing Arts programs, visit www.wallacestate.edu/fpa, call 256-352-8277 or email amy.seymore@wallacestate.edu.



WALLACE STATE

Dancers perform during the 2024 production of "The Nutcracker" at Wallace State Community College. The 2025 performances will be Nov. 22-23, in the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre at Wallace State Community College.

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

SFTWI

PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221

Hero (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Hero, a Lab mix estimated to be about 3 years old, is the kind of dog who makes you feel better just by being in the room. He's The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

With medium to high energy and a bright, easy-going spirit, he approaches every day with optimism and an eagerness to share it.

Gentle when taking treats from your fingers, Hero treats his toys with a seriousness that hints at his sharp intelligence.

He is also gifted with walking like a gentleman on his leash, turning even a simple stroll into something to look forward to.

Hero is already neutered, and his adoption fee is $35, a figure that doesn't begin to reflect his worth.

It covers vaccines, microchip, wormer and a general vet exam.

With his temperament and joyful outlook, he would thrive as a therapy partner, a loyal companion or a steady hiking buddy.

Shelter staff say he shares his optimism freely with everyone he meets.

They even sent along a few extra photos of Hero with his favorite toy, the ball, a snapshot of his playful side.

If Hero finds his forever home this week, the Cullman County Animal Shelter reminds the community that many of his friends are still waiting patiently for families of their own.

Anyone looking to adopt, foster or simply visit is encouraged to stop by and meet the rest of the shelter's wonderful pups. Visit the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE. It's open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

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

Wonderland (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The grand opening of the 23rd annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park will take place at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 20, with the Run, Run, Rudolph Fun Run to follow at 5.

Cullman County Parks and Recreation Marketing Coordinator Sara Morgan said more than 11,000 vehicles came through last year's light display. This year, she said, there will be around 2 million lights, plus a few extra surprises.

"We add a few things every year to make it bigger and better and we expect to see more cars visiting this year," she said.

The cost will be $10 per car or $20 per bus.

There will also be a Christmas train, horse and carriage rides, a snow machine, a photo booth with Santa, hot chocolate and more. More details can be found at www.facebook.com/SportsmanLakePark.

"After venturing through the lights, jump in line to see Santa and grab a picture," Morgan said. "Also be sure to check out the Holiday Concession Stand for hot chocolate, cookies and milk, and even warm blankets for those cold nights on the Christmas train and horse and carriage ride. We love seeing the joy our event brings to everyone in and around the community. Also, we want to say a huge thank you to all of our wonderful sponsors. We truly couldn't do this without your help. Your donation makes our event bigger and brighter every year."

This year, attendees will be also able to enjoy an all-in-one experience at Christmas at the Grotto, Cullman Christkindlmarkt and the 23rd annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park. 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. Dates and times will be the same and shuttles will connect all three events.

The free shuttle service will be available from 4:30-9:30 p.m.

23rd Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park

• Nov. 20-23, Nov. 28-30, Dec. 3-7, Dec. 10-23, Dec. 26-28 (Christmas lights only) | 5-9 p.m. | Last day for train rides is Dec. 23

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 through the Winter Wonderland Christmas lights! There will be an ugly Christmas sweater/Christmas costume contest and hot chocolate and shirts for sale at the finish line. This event is fun for all ages, and stroller and dog friendly.



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The grand opening of the 23rd annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park will take place at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 20, with the Run, Run, Rudolph Fun Run to follow at 5.

Said Morgan, "We can't wait to see everyone in the holiday spirit!"

Kids 6 and younger are not required to register.

"This is not a measured distance course," Morgan said. "The trail is on the 'driving road' that you take to see the lights.

"We hope everyone enjoys this Santa stroll through our Winter Wonderland."

Registration starts at 4 p.m. and the race will start at 5.

Walkers will start shortly after the runners begin.

Sportsman Lake Park is located at 1544 Sportsman Lake Road NW in Cullman. For more information, call 256-734-3052.

LEGALS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 01
TO VACATE AND SURPLUS PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR ANY PUBLIC OR MUNICIPAL PURPOSE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby established and declared that the following described real property of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is no longer needed for public or municipal purposes, to-wit:

A parcel of land being 0.20 acres, more or less, which is located northwest of Lot 120 of correction plat of Fairways Phase 2 of the Southern Pines Development Corporation, a Terri Pines Residential Community, as recorded in Map B-188a, Cullman County, Alabama, more particularly described as follows: commence at the southwest corner of Lot 120 of correction plat of Fairways Phase 2 of the Southern Pines Development Corporation head north 50' to the point of beginning; thence run southeast 71' more or less; thence run northeast 93' more or less; thence run northwest 120' more or less' thence run south 100' more or less to the point of beginning. PROPERTY IS BEING PURCHASED IN "AS IS" CONDITION.

SECTION 2. The Cullman City Council hereby declares the above described property to be surplus and not needed by the City of Cullman for public or municipal purposes.

SECTION 3. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to sell this property for its fair market value.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 30th day of October 2025. /s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council

ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 30th day of October 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 09
SECTION 2-102 CONTRACT AUTHORITY AND APPROVAL OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 2-102 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, was reserved for future established City Ordinances and is hereby established as Section 2-102 which states as follows:

Section 2-102. Contract Authority and Approval.

(a) Council Approval Required. No officer, employee, agent, or other person shall enter into any contract purporting to bind the City unless the contract (or the expenditure it entails) has been authorized by affirmative vote of the City Council and the action is recorded in the Council minutes.

(b) Form; Compliance. All contracts shall comply with applicable provisions of state law, including but not limited to the Alabama Competitive Bid Law and Public Works Law, and with this Code.

Section 2. Severability. Each and every provision of this ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and the holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid shall not affect any other provision hereof. It is hereby declared that the other provisions of this ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might be held invalid.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective after its adoption and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 17th day of November, 2025. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council

ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 17th day of November 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

Wiregrass Construction Company, Inc., gives notice of completion of contract with the Town of Fairview for construction of Project No: Wesley Avenue Resurfacing and Shoulder Stone. This notice will appear for four consecutive weeks beginning on Thursday, November 6, 2025 and ending on Thursday, November 27, 2025. All claims should be filed at 110 Office Park Drive, Suite 300, Birmingham, Al 35223 during this period. Wiregrass Construction Company, Inc.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

ALLISON MARIE GRAVES, PLAINTIFF,
VS.
JOHN HADEN WILSON, DEFENDANT.

CASE NO.: DR-2025-403.00

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

John Haden Wilson, Defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Allison Marie Graves' Complaint for Divorce by January 5th, 2026 or thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case No.: DR-2025-403.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 4th day of November, 2025.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Clerk of Circuit Court

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Brittaney Lashae Lands, An Unmarried Woman and Evelyn Faye Lands, An Unmarried Woman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for ROYAL PACIFIC FUNDING CORP., its successors and assigns dated January 4, 2024; said mortgage being recorded on January 8, 2024 in Deed Book 2072, Page 188, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2132, Page 862, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Freedom Mortgage Corporation, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on December 4, 2025 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot No. Ten (10) of Sunny Acres Subdivision as shown and known on the recorded plat of said subdivision as recorded in Map book 6, Page 225, in the Probate Records of Cullman County, Alabama.
Also a 50 foot R.O.W. along an existing gravel drive being described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast Corner of Lot No. 9 of Sunny Acres Subdivision as recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama in Map Book 6, Page 225; thence North 17 degrees 07' 40" East 247.43 feet along the East line of Lot No. 9 to a point of the South R.O.W. of County Road No. 738; thence South 86 degrees 56' 50" East 50.00 feet along said R.O.W. to the Northwest Corner of Lot No. 11; thence South 16 degrees 53' 16" West 280.00 feet to the Southwest Corner of Lot No. 12; thence North 50 degrees 31' 57" West 53.70 feet along the North line of Lot No. 10, back to the point of beginning. Description taken from survey of James W. Baldy, AL. License No. 11845, dated July 16, 2010.

Said property is commonly known as **85 County Road 738, Cullman, AL 35055**.

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

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

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

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

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 25-07453AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
11/06/2025,11/13/2025,11/20/2025

25-07453AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
ROBERT LEWIS HOLDER,
Deceased.

Case No.: PC-2025-348

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration on the Estate of said deceased having been granted to BRIDGET HOLDER, on the 14th day of November, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

BRIDGET HOLDER
Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert Lewis Holder
Shelbie G. Hankey, Attorney for the Estate

To the publisher of *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*:

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
RICHARD MONROE HOLCOMBE,
Deceased.

CASE NO. PC2025-400

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL (SELF-PROVED WILL)

TO: LORI DENISE HOLCOMBE HUNTER, AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF RICHARD MONROE HOLCOMBE, DECEASED.

Petition for Probate of Will (Self-Proved Will), filed the 30th day of October, 2025, made Court record the 31st day of October, 2025, by Steven C. Smith, Attorney for Petitioner, Richard Warren Holcombe, has been scheduled for the **8th day of January, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 18th day of November, 2025.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Attorney for Petitioner:
Steven C. Smith
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
MARY ROSE BARTIMUS,
Deceased.

CASE NO.: PC2025-276

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to PAMELA DAY BEARD RUTHERFORD as Personal Representative of the Estate of MARY ROSE BARTIMUS 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.

Pamela Day Beard Rutherford
Personal Representative

Atty for Petitioner:
C. Blake West
412 Ave SW Ste 270
Cullman, Al 35055
256-798-0320

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

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Monday December 1, 2025, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Short form subdivision at 1400 Olive Street SW to move lot line
2. Short form subdivision – Main Avenue SW – City Cemetery – two lots
3. Rezoning request at 2211 2nd Avenue NW – R-1 to B-3
4. Short form subdivision – 1536 4th Street SW – combine two lots into one lot
5. Short form subdivision – 3rd Street SE – combine three lots into one lot
6. Conditional use request at 1451 11th Street SE – Foundation of Jesus Church
7. Rezoning request on Ellsworth Drive SW – AG-1 to R-3
8. Conditional use request on 3rd Street SE for a gas station
9. Amendment to Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 62, Article III, Section 62-32
10. Amendment to Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 62, Article XI, Section 62-163
11. Amendment to Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 62, Article XI, Section 62-165
12. Short form subdivision request at 1501 1st Street NW – create 4 lots
13. Short form subdivision request on County Road 1466 to create 4 lots

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

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

GARRISON LOGISTICS, INC., PLAINTIFF,
V.
RAMANS TRANSPORT, INC., DEFENDANT.

CASE NO. DV 2025 – 900483

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Please take notice that a Summons and Complaint in the above-styled matter was filed by Plaintiff, Garrison Logistics, Inc., in the District Court of Cullman County, Alabama, on October 8, 2025. Attempts have been made to serve Defendant, Ramans Transport, Inc., with the Summons and Complaint by Certified U.S. Mail at the last known addresses of the Defendant, 11201 5th Street, Apt. C104, Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730. Please be advised that Ramans Transport, Inc., as the named Defendant, has thirty (30) days from the last date of publication to contest said Complaint and must do so by filing a written response with the Cullman County Clerk of Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055 and with Plaintiff's Attorney, Shay Persall, Shay Persall Law, LLC, 611 7th Street SW, Cullman, Alabama 35056.

Done this 3rd day of November, 2025.

Lisa McSwain
LISA McSWAIN, CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
PATRICIA ANN RICH,
Deceased.

CASE NO. PC2025-411

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL (SELF-PROVED WILL)

TO: LESLIE ALLISON LINDSEY, SCOTT RUSSELL, AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF PATRICIA ANN RICH, DECEASED.

Petition for Probate of Will (Self-Proved Will), filed the 31st day of October, 2025, made Court record the 3rd day of November, 2025, by Sherry H. Barrett, Attorney for Petitioner, Jimmy O'Neal Thomas, has been scheduled for the **8th day of January, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 18th day of November, 2025.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Attorney for Petitioner:
Sherry H. Barrett
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

TAMMY WHITLOCK,
Plaintiff

vs.

COREY WHITLOCK,
Defendant

Case Number: **25-DR-2025-000391.00**

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Corey Whitlock, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Tammy Whitlock's Complaint for Divorce by January 5th, 2026, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DRw2025-000391.OO in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 28th day of October, 2025.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER:
TAMMY WHITLOCK
576 COUNTY ROAD 1555
BAILEYTON, AL 35019

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF:
VIRGINIA FAYE HULSLANDER,
Deceased.

CASE NO. PC-2025-PC 2025

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY of said deceased having been granted to MARTY KEITH WADDLE on the 24th day of September, 2025 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Court Judge of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within six months after the grant of Letters or within five months from the first publication of this notice, whichever is the latter to occur or the same will be barred.

/s/Marty Keith Waddle
Marty Keith Waddle, Personal Representative of the Estate of Virginia Faye Hulslander

Seth B. Thompson, Attorney for Petitioner
Marty Keith Waddle

Of Counsel:

The Thompson Law Firm, LLC
201 Second Avenue Southeast
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Phone: 256.734.4591
Fax: 866.826.4785

TO THE PUBLISHER OF THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 02
TO VACATE AN UTILITY EASEMENT NOT NEEDED FOR ANY PUBLIC OR MUNICIPAL PURPOSE
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City of Cullman has a utility easement located at 5411 Alabama Highway 157 NW,
All that tract or parcel of land lying in and being in Section 5, Township 10 South, Range 3 West, Cullman County Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a point at the corner common to Sections 33, 32, 5 and 4; Thence leaving said common corner and continuing along the east line of Section 5 South 00 degrees 49 minutes 27 seconds West a distance of 250.00 feet to a 5/8-inch capped rebar found on the southerly right of way of Alabama Highway 157 (having a variable width, publicly dedicated right of way); Thence continuing along said right of way North 88 degrees 39 minutes 46 seconds West a distance of 208.31 feet to a mag nail found, said mag nail found being the true point of beginning. Thence South 00 degrees 50 minutes 48 seconds West a distance of 319.15 feet to a point; Thence North 89 degrees 22 minutes 13 seconds West a distance of 25.37 feet to a 5/8-inch capped rebar set; Thence North 00 degrees 49 minutes 35 seconds East a distance of 111.65 feet to a 1/2-inch capped rebar found; Thence North 00 degrees 50 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 208.18 feet to a capped rebar found on the southerly right of way of Alabama Highway 157; Thence continuing along said right of way South 87 degrees 50 minutes 45 seconds East a distance of 25.46 feet to a mag nail found, said mag nail found being the true point of beginning. Said tract of land contains 0.186 acres (8,121 square feet).
SECTION 2. The Cullman City Council finds and determines that this utility easement is no longer needed for any public or municipal purpose, and that said easement should be vacated.
SECTION 3. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to do as necessary to vacate said utility easement.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 30th day of October 205. /s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 30th day of October 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 10
SECTION 2-103 EXECUTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACTS
OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:
Section 1. That Section 2-103 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, was reserved for future established City Ordinances and is hereby established as Section 2-103 which states as follows:

Section 2-103. Execution and Administration of Contracts.

(a) Execution. Upon authorization by the City Council, the Mayor is authorized and directed to execute the contract on behalf of the City, and the City Clerk shall attest where required by law.

(b) Implementation. The Mayor shall implement and carry out the terms and conditions of any contract approved by the City Council, including issuing administrative directives necessary for performance, provided that no such action expands the scope, price, or term beyond that approved by the Council without further Council authorization.

Section 2. Severability. Each and every provision of this ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and the holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid shall not affect any other provision hereof. It is hereby declared that the other provisions of this ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might be held invalid.
Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective after its adoption and publication as provided by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 17th day of November, 2025. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council
ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 17th day of November 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 08
TO UPDATE SECTION 2-85 ORDER OF BUSINESS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 2-85 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Sec. 2-85. - Order of business

(a) At each regular meeting of the City Council, the following order of business shall be observed, unless otherwise determined by the Council:

(1) Call to order and roll call.
(2) Invocation and pledge of allegiance.
(3) Approval of minutes of prior meeting(s).
(4) Public comments: petitions, requests, and communications.
(5) Reports of committees, boards, and officers.
(6) Unfinished business.
(7) New business.
(8) Council comments and remarks.
(9) Adjournment.

(b) Deadline for Agenda Submission; Agenda Approval.

(1) The Council President shall establish and publicize a deadline by which members of the Council, the Mayor, staff and/or community must submit items for inclusion on the agenda for the next regular meeting.
(2) No item may be placed on the agenda unless it has been approved in writing or electronically by the Council President. In the absence of the Council President, the President Pro Tem shall perform this function.
(3) The Council President (or President Pro Tem, as applicable) shall review proposed agenda items for appropriateness, completeness, and conformity with applicable procedures, and may decline to include items that do not meet the requirements without prejudice to resubmission at a later date.
(4) The City Clerk shall prepare and distribute the agenda as approved and finalized by the Council President or President Pro Tem, and shall post the agenda in compliance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act and local notice requirements.

(c) Public comment from citizens and other elected officials. Citizens and other elected officials who wish to be heard by the council shall be afforded such opportunity during the portion of the meeting so designated. The comment shall conform to the requirements of decorum and order that apply to the members of the council and the president shall take whatever steps are necessary (including the removal of any citizen or other elected official) to preserve such decorum and order. Comments shall be addressed to the city council and shall not include any personal or other comments addressed at any member of the city council or city's employee[s]. There shall be no debate and no action by the city council during this portion of the agenda.

(d) Scheduled public hearings. The city council may conduct any public hearings during this portion of the council meeting. Any notice required by law prior to the conduct of the public hearing shall be given by the city council.

(e) Individual speakers are required to adhere to a three-minute time limit when speaking on issues scheduled for public hearing. The president or the council may, by majority vote, either extend or reduce time limits based on the number of speakers. The comment shall conform to the requirements of decorum and order that apply to the members of the council and the president shall take whatever steps are necessary (including the removal of any citizen or other elected official) to preserve such decorum and order. Comments shall be addressed to the city council and shall not include any personal or other comments addressed at any member of the city council or city's employees.

(f) Departure from order of business. Any departure from the order of business set forth in the official agenda shall be made only upon affirmative vote of all the members of the council present at the meeting.

(g) Additions, deletions, or technical corrections to agenda. Deletions or technical corrections to the agenda may be considered by the council and adopted by the passage of a single motion approved by majority vote of those members in attendance at the meeting. Additions to the agenda shall only be made by affirmative vote of all the members of the council present at the meeting.

(h) Consent agenda and other procedural provisions remain as set forth in other parts of this section.

(i) Announcing agenda items. The president shall announce each item on the agenda. The mayor, city clerk, city attorney, or other appropriate staff member shall then be called, presiding officer, to present the item to the council when appropriate.

Section 2. Severability. Each and every provision of this ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and the holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid shall not affect any other provision hereof. It is hereby declared that the other provisions of this ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might be held invalid.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective after its adoption and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 3rd day of November, 2025. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council

ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 3rd day of November 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 11
SECTION 26-1 POSTING, FILLING, AND ADMINISTRATION OF POSITIONS
OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 26-1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, was reserved for future established City Ordinances and is hereby established as Section 26-1 which states as follows:

Section 26-1. Posting, Filling, and Administration of Positions.

(a) Purpose - The purpose of this section is to promote transparency, fairness, and fiscal responsibility in the hiring and administration of all full-time, part-time, and temporary employment positions with the City of Cullman; to affirm the City's commitment as an Equal Opportunity Employer; to ensure equitable pay practices; and to require that all positions be authorized within the Council-approved budget. This ordinance reinforces the standards and expectations contained in the City of Cullman Employee Handbook.

(b) Definitions - For the purposes of this section, unless otherwise indicated:

1. Full-time position – an employment position expected to work the standard full-time schedule as defined in the City of Cullman Employee Handbook.
2. Part-time position – an employment position with fewer scheduled hours than a full-time position.
3. Temporary position – a position intended to last less than twelve (12) months and not intended to become permanent.
4. Department Head – the director or chief officer of a municipal department appointed by the Council or if such individual is not appointed by the Council, then the supervisor as designated by the Mayor.
5. Employee Handbook – the current City of Cullman Employee Handbook adopted by the City Council and applicable to all municipal employees.

(c) Posting Requirement and Duration.

1. Except as otherwise provided in this ordinance or the Employee Handbook, any vacancy for a full-time, part-time, or temporary position must be posted publicly for no fewer than seven (7) calendar days before any selection or hiring occurs.
2. Notices shall be published on the City's official website and physically posted in the designated public area or other municipal buildings.
3. Each posting shall include: job title, classification, summary of essential duties, minimum qualifications, pay range, closing date, and the statement: "The City of Cullman is an Equal Opportunity Employer and provides Equal Pay for Equal Work."

(d) Equal Opportunity and Pay Equity.

1. The City affirms that all employment decisions shall be made without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, disability, veteran status, or any other protected classification under federal or state law.
2. The City commits to maintaining compensation practices consistent with the principle of equal pay for equal work. Department Heads shall periodically review pay structures for equity and recommend adjustments to the Mayor and Council during the annual budget process.

(e) Budget Authorization.

1. No position—full-time, part-time, or temporary—may be created, posted, or filled unless the current Council-approved budget specifically authorizes the position and provides the necessary funding.
2. Any employment offer for a position not included in the approved budget is void until the Council amends the budget and position control policy to authorize such position.

(f) Job Description Requirement.

1. No person shall be hired into any full-time position unless a written job description has been prepared by the Department Head and Human Resources Director and approved by the City Council.
2. Each job description shall identify essential duties, required qualifications, pay range, reporting structure, and supervisory responsibilities.
3. Job descriptions shall be attached to the employment posting and retained in the employee's personnel file.

(g) Recommendation and Hiring Process.

1. Department Heads shall recommend qualified applicants to the Mayor for consideration based on the criteria and procedures set forth in the posting, job description, and Employee Handbook.
2. The Mayor shall review all recommendations for job offers, consult with Human Resources as necessary, and make final hiring decisions consistent with this ordinance and applicable law, except those positions appointed by the City Council.
3. Temporary or seasonal positions may be filled under departmental authority when expressly permitted by the Employee Handbook, provided all budget, posting, and equal-opportunity requirements are met.

(h) Employment Offers and Salary Approval.

1. All full-time employment offers shall be made in writing and issued by the Mayor on behalf of the City, except those positions appointed by the City Council.
2. The salary offered for any such position must be included in the City's current Council-approved budget or in a budget amendment duly adopted by the Council. The Mayor shall notify the Council in writing prior to presenting a job offer to a candidate for any proposed salaried position, previously approved by the Council during the budget process. The Mayor is authorized to offer an hourly rate above the entry level starting pay for an approved position within the adopted pay plan by the City Council for those individuals who have experience, training, and certifications that would warrant a higher rate of pay for said position.
3. The written offer shall specify the job title, salary, employment classification, reporting department, and a statement that employment is subject to the City of Cullman Employee Handbook and applicable City ordinances.

(i) Emergency Provisions.

1. In the event of a declared State of Emergency or other extraordinary circumstance where essential City operations would be adversely impacted by compliance with the posting or approval timelines in this section, the Mayor shall be allowed temporary and/or emergency appointments. Any such temporary and/or emergency appointments must be documented and shall remain in effect only for the duration of the emergency or until the Council approves such positions and modifies the previously approved budget.

(j) Employee Handbook Reference.

1. All hiring, employment, performance, disciplinary, and termination procedures shall follow the City of Cullman Employee Handbook. In the event of a conflict between this section and the Handbook, this section shall prevail unless expressly stated otherwise.

Section 2. Severability. Each and every provision of this ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and the holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid shall not affect any other provision hereof. It is hereby declared that the other provisions of this ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might be held invalid.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective after its adoption and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 17th day of November, 2025. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council

ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 17th day of November 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025 – 04

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING AND RATIFYING THE LEVY OF A 7.5 MILL AD VALOREM TAX AND A ONE-HALF CENT SALES AND USE TAX FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL PURPOSES IN THE CITY OF CULLMAN

BE IT ORDAINED by the Cullman City Council (herein called "the Council"), the governing body of the City of Cullman (herein called "the City"), as follows:

Section 1. Findings. The Council hereby finds and declares as follows:

(a) that there is presently being levied in the City, pursuant to Section 216.04 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, and proceedings taken thereunder, a special school tax of 7.5 mills per dollar, the proceeds of which are used exclusively for general public school purposes (herein called the "Special School Tax") and are paid to the Cullman City Board of Education (herein called "the Board");

(b) that there are presently being levied in the City, pursuant to Article 3 of Chapter 51 of Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, sales and use taxes at the rate of one-half of one percent (herein together called the "City Sales and Use Tax"), the proceeds of which are appropriated and paid to the Board for general public school purposes;

(c) that the Board has reported to the City that the Board proposes to issue its Special Tax School Warrants, Series 2024-A, in the approximate principal amount of $30,415,000 (herein called "the Series 2024-A Warrants"), for the purpose of financing a portion of the costs of various public school capital improvements in the City, including, without limitation, a new Cullman Intermediate School and a new technical education/STEM wing at Cullman High School (herein called "the 2024 School Improvements"), and to pledge, for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Series 2024-A Warrants and among other revenues available to the Board, the proceeds of the Special School Tax presently being paid to the Board; and

(d) that the Board has reported to the City that the Board proposes to issue its Special Tax School Warrants, Series 2024-B, in the approximate principal amount of $1,920,000 (herein called "the Series 2024-B Warrants"), for the purpose of financing a portion of the costs of the 2024 School Improvements, and to pledge, for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Series 2024-B Warrants, the proceeds of the City Sales and Use Tax presently being paid to the Board.

Section 2. Pledge. (a) The City hereby pledges, to the Board and to the registered owners of the Series 2024-A Warrants, the Special School Tax and the proceeds therefrom and agrees that it shall continue to levy and provide for the collection and assessment of the Special School Tax and to pay the same over to the Board until the final retirement of the Series 2024-A Warrants, now expected to occur on or before March 1, 2054.

(b) The City hereby pledges, to the Board and to the registered owners of the Series 2024-B Warrants, the City Sales and Use Tax and the proceeds therefrom and agrees that it shall continue to levy and provide for the collection and assessment of the City Sales and Use Tax and to pay the same over to the Board until the final retirement of the Series 2024-B Warrants, now expected to occur on or before March 1, 2032. ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL on this the 28th day of October, 2024. /s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council. APPROVED this the 28th day of October, 2024. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor. ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 03
TO ANNEX CERTAIN PROPERTIES INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Cullman finds that the following property owners, Kyle and Natalie Hope, have petitioned the City under the provisions of Section 11-42-21 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, that the following described property, owned by the petitioners, be annexed into the City of Cullman:
PIN: 36106. Parcel Number: 09-08-28-0-001-022.000. Property Address: 1825 County Road 1339, Vinemont, AL 35179.
Legal Description: A tract or parcel of land containing 3.20 acres of land, more or less and being a part of the northeast quarter of section 28, township 9 south, range 3 west, Cullman County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: commence at a found P.K. nail marking the northeast corner of said section 28 having an Alabama state plane, west zone, nad 83 coordinate value of n. 1541284.32'. e. 2165944.63 and run south 00 degrees 42 minutes 10 seconds west (bearing based on al state plane, west zone, nad 83) and run along the east line, a distance of 659.23 feet to the point of beginning; thence south 00 degrees 42 minutes 10 seconds west a distance of 354.32 feet to a set rebar; thence north 87 degrees 28 minutes 22 seconds west a distance of 207.59 feet to a set rebar (conn7831); thence south 43 degrees 46 minutes 14 seconds west a distance of 166.47 feet to a set rebar (conn-17831) that is 50' outside of the 808 contour line of Lake George; thence run in a northerly direction following said line the following 5 courses: north 40 degrees 55 minutes 58 seconds west a distance of 32.08 feet: north 23 degrees 03 minutes 22 seconds west la distance of 96.58 feet north 14 degrees 15 minutes 03 seconds west a distance of 83.69 feet: north 28 degrees 06 minutes 48 seconds east a distance of 70.30 feet: north 20 degrees 48 minutes 00 seconds east a distance of 72.44 feet: north 31 degrees 59 minutes 34 seconds west a distance of 61.24 feet to a set rebar: thence north 39 degrees 33 minutes 13 seconds east la distance of 119.28 feet to a found 5/8" rebar: thence south 89 degrees 32 minutes 02 seconds east, a distance of 303.97 feet to the point of beginning. description according to the survey dated October 30, 2024, by Joseph E. Conn, III, job #11959.
SECTION 2. That the Council has before it a map showing the relationship of the properties proposed to be annexed to the corporate limits of the City of Cullman, and that said map is on file in the office of the City Clerk along with an acknowledgment by the property owner that they want it to be annexed into the City of Cullman.
SECTION 3. That the City of Cullman does hereby annex as a part of its corporate limits the above described tracts or parcels of land as R-1 Residential District contingent upon the owners granting an easement up to, but not exceeding an additional fifty (50) feet in width, less any width of existing public road contiguous to said easement for a public road right-of-way including utilities for water, sewer, surface water, natural gas, electric, internet, cable or other public services provided by the City of its franchises.
SECTION 4. That a copy of this ordinance after its adoption, which ordinance includes a description of the property annexed to the City of Cullman, be filed in the office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, the county in which the municipality is located.
SECTION 5. That this ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 30th day of October 2025. /s/Jenny Folsom - President of City Council

ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 30th day of October 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 07
TO UPDATE SECTION 2-184 BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED BY CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 2-184 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Sec. 2-184. - Board members appointed by city council.

The following board members, whom shall be citizens of the city and registered voters unless specified otherwise, shall be appointed by the council:

(1) One member of the planning commission, which may be a member of the city council.
(2) The members of the medical clinic boards, pursuant to their term expiration and until their successors are appointed.
(3) Two members of the board of aviation, one of which has traditionally been the mayor and one who is a resident citizen of the city which shall be resident citizens of the city, whose terms are coextensive with the appointing council and shall continue to serve until [their] successors are appointed.
(4) The members of the civil service commission of the city for six-year terms pursuant to the current term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
(5) The seven members of the construction board of adjustment and appeals for three-year terms and two alternate members for one-year terms pursuant to the current term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
(6) The four members of the Cullman Jefferson Counties Gas District Board which shall be members of the city council or the mayor whose terms are coextensive with the appointing council.
(7) The members of the downtown redevelopment authority for terms of six years pursuant to the current term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
(8) The members of the industrial development board of the city for a term of six years pursuant to the current term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
(9) The members of the museum board for a term of three years pursuant to the current term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
(10) The five members of the board of adjustment and the two supernumerary members for a term of three years pursuant to the current term expiration and until their successors are appointed.
(11) The members of the park and recreation board of the city for terms of five years pursuant to the current term expiration and until their successors are appointed.
(12) The members of the tree commission for terms of three years pursuant to the current term expiration and until their successors are appointed.
(13) Five members of the utility board of which at least three members shall be council members or the mayor and whose terms shall be coextensive with that of the appointing council, and two members, whom are citizens of the city and qualified electorates, whom shall serve for a period of six years pursuant to the current term expiration and until their successors are appointed.
(14) Five members of the board of the City of Cullman Public Education and Governmental Access Television, Inc. (Cullman Community Television Board) pursuant to the current four-year term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed. The members shall include one city council member, one member of the board of education and three members from the city at large.
(15) Five members of the 11 members of the Cullman County Center Developmentally Disabled 310 Board pursuant to the current five-year term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
(16) Three members of the North Central Alabama Mental Health Board pursuant to the current term expiration and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
(17) The members of the alcohol review committee shall consist of seven members, being:

a. The city clerk, or designated representative approved by the city council,
b. The chief of police or designated representative approved by the city council,
c. The fire chief or designated representative approved by the city council,
d. The mayor or designated representative approved by the mayor, and
e. Three members to be appointed by the city council.

(18) The members of the downtown design review board shall consist of seven members serving three-year staggered terms appointed by the city council.

Section 2. Severability. Each and every provision of this ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and the holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid shall not affect any other provision hereof. It is hereby declared that the other provisions of this ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might be held invalid.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective after its adoption and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 3rd day of November, 2025. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council

ATTESTED BY:/s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. APPROVED this the 3rd day of November 2025./s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

Bond (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — An Altoona man is behind bars until his murder trial after failing to show up for a recent court appearance. Cullman County Circuit Court Judge Gregory Nicholas on Nov. 17, 2025, revoked Ramon Maldonado-Vasquez's bond and ordered him held until trial after he failed to appear.

Maldonado-Vasquez, 20, was indicted in May 2023 for a fiery crash that occurred along Alabama Highway 91 near Hanceville in Cullman County shortly after 1 a.m. on Nov. 11, 2022.

He was allegedly driving under the influence, at more than 100 mph, attempting to flee from a Hanceville police officer.

Three passengers in his vehicle were killed after he crashed into a tree.

The victims were Cayden Britt, 15; Dailan Jennings, 16; and Evan Magana, 15.

At the time, the Hanceville PD told media an officer found the pickup truck in flames after it collided with the tree.

The three victims were inside and Maldonado-Vasquez, who was then 17, was ejected.

Maldonado-Vasquez's charges include three counts of reckless murder by vehicle, one count of attempting to elude, one count of driving under the influence, one count of minor in possession of alcohol and one count of reckless driving.

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Christkindlmarkt (from Front)

usually rooted in traditions that have been celebrated in Germany for decades, if not centuries."

Part of that growth has been about creating experiences for families. Anderson said the additions of the ice rink, carousel, tubing slide and Ferris wheel have been especially meaningful.

"In an age when technology consumes so much of our family time, the Christkindlmarkt provides a much-needed break," he said. "Attractions like the ice rink, carousel, tubing slide and Ferris wheel reengage families with one another. They give parents and children the chance to slow down, share experiences and create memories that will last a lifetime."

The festival also carries an impact that stretches well beyond the season's fun. Businesses across Cullman feel its effect each year.

"Each year, we hear from local businesses that they've set record sales thanks to the hundreds of thousands of visitors drawn downtown by the market," he said. "It's a communitywide celebration. In fact, we estimate the economic impact at more than $30 million. When you hear the success stories from business owners across the city, it's easy to see how transformative this event has been for Cullman County."

That success, Anderson said, comes from a simple philosophy.

"Our guiding values are authenticity, inclusivity and hospitality," he said. "We want every guest, whether they're from across town or across the country, to feel welcomed, valued and part of something special."

Looking ahead, families can expect even more to explore this holiday season. The market is expanding by 2 acres into the Warehouse District, allowing CPRST to bring in even more authentic vendors and experiences.

"Families will still find all their favorite attractions, but this year we're adding an exceptionally rare Venetian double-decker carousel, one of only about a dozen in the U.S., identical to the carousel at the Frankfurt Christkindlmarkt," he said.

"We'll also debut a new life-sized Schwibbogen gate, modeled after the iconic Dresden Striezelmarkt arch. And under the Festhalle, we're proud to introduce Käthe Wohlfahrt, the legendary German Christmas store."

For Anderson and those representing the City of Cullman, the most rewarding part is seeing the way the festival brings people together.

"This event brings out the very best in Cullman," he said. "Our community is special — full of people who value family, friendship and tradition — and I believe that spirit is a big reason the Christkindlmarkt has become so successful."

Anderson added that the festival's success depends on a wide circle of people and organizations.

"We are deeply thankful for everyone who makes it possible: our fabrication and programming teams, food and merchant vendors, entertainers, sponsors, volunteers and the unwavering support of our City leadership," he said. "Together, they've helped us create the best Christkindlmarkt in the United States."

More

• The Cullman Christkindlmarkt will take place Nov. 20-Dec. 23 downtown.

• 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


JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

This year, attendees will be also able to enjoy an all-in-one experience at Christmas at the Grotto, Cullman Christkindlmarkt and the 23rd annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park. 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. Dates and times will be the same and shuttles will connect all three events. The free shuttle service will be available from 4:30-9:30 p.m.

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!

Playoffs (from Front)

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The second round of the state playoffs concluded last Friday night, and three local teams clinched a spot in the quarterfinal round: the Addison Bulldogs, Fairview Aggies and Good Hope Raiders. The challenges will only get tougher for them in the third round, as Addison will go to Marion County, Fairview will head home to take on Scottsboro and Good Hope will host Plainview.

Addison (11-1) at Marion County (9-3)

The no. 6-ranked Addison Bulldogs looked to continue their dominance on both sides of the ball at home against Berry Fayette in the second round of the Class 1A state playoffs last Friday night. It was only a 12-6 game at the half, but Addison quickly broke the game wide open in the second half, putting up four touchdowns, as they went on to defeat the Wildcats, 39-6. Their quarterfinal opponent is the Marion County Red Raiders, who are coming off a 28-13 win at home against Appalachian. Addison has scored over 35 points in 10 of their wins so far and are currently averaging 50 points a game this season. Their defense has been really stingy, allowing just 14 points a game. Marion County is putting up 39 points a game offensively and are giving up 28 points defensively. The Red Raiders are currently on a seven-game winning streak, so the Bulldogs need to be on their A-game from start to finish. Addison is 6-1 at home, while Marion County is 5-1 on the road, so something will definitely have to give when these two teams face off against each other on Friday night. The Bulldogs are 6-4 all-time against the Red Raiders, and this will be their first meeting since 2002. If Addison can continue to do what they've done all season along, they will punch their ticket to the semifinals.

Fairview (12-0) vs. Scottsboro (8-4)

The no. 4-ranked Fairview Aggies looked to not only stay undefeated, but also keep their season alive, last Friday night at Jacksonville in the second round of the Class 5A playoffs. It was a defensive battle in the first half, as Fairview held a slim 7-0 lead at halftime.

A pair of rushing touchdowns by Jake Harper gave the Aggies a 21-7 lead late in the game, but a touchdown by the Eagles made it 21-13. A touchdown pass by Kolt Redding put the finishing touches on a 28-13 win for Fairview. Their opponent in the quarterfinal round will be the Scottsboro Wildcats, who are coming off a 42-6 rout of St. Clair County. Fairview's offense has lit up the scoreboard for most of the season, scoring 40 or more points in seven of their 12 wins so far this year. The Aggies are averaging 36 points a game on offense, and defensively, they are allowing just 14 points a game. Scottsboro's offense is not afraid to light up the scoreboard themselves either, scoring 40 or more points in five of their eight wins so far this season, and are currently putting up 33 points a game on that side of the ball.

Their defense has been tough to score on at times, allowing just 16 points a game, so Fairview will definitely be tested once again. The Aggies are 6-0 at home, while the Wildcats are 3-2 on the road. Both teams have faced off only once, and that was back in 1926. If Fairview continues to be balanced on offense, and if they take care of business on both sides of the ball, they will clinch a spot in the semifinals for the first time since 2021.

Good Hope (10-2) vs. Plainview (12-0)

The no. 10th-ranked Good Hope Raiders made the trip over to Trinity to take on the no. 3-ranked, undefeated West Morgan Rebels in the second round of the Class 4A state playoffs. It was a one-score game at the half, but it was all Good Hope in the second half. A field goal made it 17-7 late in the third quarter, and a pick-six by Carter Rutherford, later followed by a long touchdown run by Parker Johnson, helped seal the Raiders' 31-7 win over West Morgan. Good Hope will host the no. 5-ranked, undefeated Plainview Bears in the quarterfinals this week. Plainview is coming off a 42-14 rout of Alexandria last week, so the Raiders will definitely be tested once again.

Good Hope's offense has been tough to slow down for most of the season, as the Raiders have scored 30 or more points in eight of their 10 wins so far this year. Their defense has been pretty stingy themselves, allowing just 12 points a game on that side of the ball. Good Hope will take on a Plainview squad that is averaging a little over 44 points a game offensively, and are giving up 17 points a game defensively. The Bears have scored over 30 points in 11 of their 12 wins so far this year, so the Raider defense will definitely be tested this Friday night. Good Hope is 6-0 at home, and Plainview is 5-0 on the road, so this game will definitely come down to who scores last or who can make the biggest stop at the end. The Raiders haven't been made it to the semifinals since 1997, so they will look to make some history against the Bears on Friday night.

All three games will take place Thursday night, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m.

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Obituary Announcements: Nov. 18-19

Alton Lee Davis, Aaron John Davis, Brandon Lee Davis, Columbus Theodore Davis
A graveside service for Alton Lee Davis, Aaron John Davis, Brandon Lee Davis and Columbus Theodore Davis will be held on Thursday, Nov. 20, at 10 a.m. at Good Hope Cemetery, Hanceville, Alabama.

Betty Engel Newman, 96
Funeral Service for Betty Engel Newman, age 96 of Durham, North Carolina, will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 22, 2025, at graveside at Cullman City Cemetery with Rev. John Bussman officiating. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 22, 2025 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Newman passed away on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at her residence. She was born November 17, 1928, to Paul Frederick and Frieda Goehler Engel. She was preceded in death by her husband LTC Francis W. Newman, USAR Ret.; her parents; her son Paul F. Newman; her daughter-in-law Tracey Baker; her brother Alfred Engel; and her sisters Helen Engwall, Lucille Lueck, Margaret Plunkett and Edythe Nesmith. Survivors include her sons Francis W. (Elizabeth) Newman Jr. and John A. Newman; grandchildren Kathryn Newman, Alison (Alex) Newman and William (Colleen) Newman; and great-grandchildren Felix Watkins, Forrest Newman and Connor Newman.

Billy Bob Nooner, 93
Bob Nooner, 93-year-old loving husband to Barbara Nooner for almost 66 years, left this life for an eternity in Heaven on Sunday, November 16, 2025, at his home in Eva, Alabama with his family. Billy Bob Nooner Sr. Was born June 22, 1932, to Oscar Shannon Nooner and Sallie Ozell Williams Nooner in McRae, Arkansas. He was the youngest, and last surviving of 5 children. He was proceeded in death by his parents, his sister Reba Jean McAlister, and his three brothers Theron Wayne (Betty), Oscar Shannon, and Henry Burl. Bob began his 20 years of service in the Navy, in the footsteps of all 3 of his older brothers in 1951. In 1959, while stationed in Pensacola, he met and married Barbara Larmon. They went on to raise five children in the training and instruction of the Lord in Honolulu, Hawaii; Yokuska, Japan; San Diego, California; and Rison, Arkansas. In addition to his military service as an airplane mechanic, Bob modeled his work ethic in many areas including the pulpwood industry, managing a small farm to support his family, and serving as a house parent and maintenance for Southern Christian Home and Childhaven children's homes. Bob loved to hunt, fish, and spend time "piddling" with whatever he could find. He was a faithful member of the Church of Christ for over 60 years, including the last 25 plus years with the Cullman Church of Christ in Cullman, Alabama. Bob was painfully proceeded in death by his oldest son, Billy Bob Nooner, Jr., "Bill". In addition to his wife, Barbara, he is survived by his caregivers: daughter, Rebecca Land and her husband Nathan, of Eva, AL and their children, Addison and Kai-Lynn, of Athens, AL as well as his three sons, Wally (Jennifer) of Chesapeake, VA, Danny (Stacey) of Hampton, AR, Gary (Leah) of Sheridan, AR, 8 other grandchildren: Daniel (Brittney) Nooner, Bobby (Serena) Nooner, Chris (Tasha) Nooner, Ashley (Rich) Porter, Whitney Holloway, Hayden Nooner, Jake (Autumn) Nooner, Seth (Brooke) Nooner, 12 great grandchildren, a brother-in-law, Leon McAlister and a sister-in-law, Mavis Nooner. Bob also leaves behind many more who loved and knew him as being a Papaw, uncle, and Mr. B. A celebration of life service will be held at Cullman Church of Christ on Friday, December 19, 2025 at 11 a.m. with Jim Wright and Steve Cummings officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in his memory to the Navigating Grief ministry at Cullman Church of Christ or Childhaven.

Dorothy Virginia Grimmett, 99
Dorothy Virginia Grimmett, known for her gentle and wise spirit, passed away on November 16, 2025, at the age of 99. Born on February 9, 1926, Dorothy led a life full of devotion, selflessness, and enduring faith. Dorothy was a life-long resident of Cullman County, Alabama, where she exemplified kindness and compassion in all her endeavors. Those fortunate enough to be in Dorothy's life admired her honesty and patience, and she was cherished by family and friends alike. She joins in peace her beloved husband, William Verlard Grimmett; her parents, Oscar and Malinda Anderson; her son-in-law, James Pike; her siblings, Florrace Hunt, Mary Perdue, and Herrald Anderson; and nieces Kathy Scott and Betty Wells. Dorothy leaves behind her daughter, Diana Gay Pike; her grandson, Allen William Pike; her brother, Howard Anderson; niece, Gwen Burns; nephew, Larry Anderson, and many great-nieces and great-nephews and others who have been touched by her thoughtful and devoted nature. She will be remembered as a hardworking, compassionate soul who gave much of herself to others. She especially cared for children throughout her life and they always gravitated towards her in return. A visitation will be held on November 19, 2025, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home, located at 1901 2nd Ave Northwest, Cullman, AL. The celebration of life funeral service will take place on November 20, 2025, at 1 p.m. at the same venue. A graveside committal service will follow at Cullman City Cemetery, located on 9th St SW, Cullman, AL. Although Dorothy is no longer with us, her wise and caring nature will forever remain in the hearts of those she touched throughout her life.

Fred P. Morris, 87
Fred P. Morris, of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away on November 16, 2025, at the age of 87. Mr. Morris was born on March 22, 1938, in Blount County, Alabama. Fred is preceded in death by his mother, Pauline Latta Morris and his brother, Clyde Morris. Mr. Morris is survived by his adoring wife of 64, Fran Morris; son, Fred Paul Morris II, known as Freddie, and his wife, Belinda; grandchildren, Brittney Beckmann and husband Johnny, Brandon Sanders, Ky Nelson and wife June, Christian Nelson and wife Jessica, Bethany Nelson and fiancé Steve; sixteen great-grandchildren; brother, Wayne Morris and wife Gearl; sister-in-law, Sue Morris; and a host of loving family and friends. Fred was a member of Redan Missionary Baptist Church where he and his family worshipped our Savior alongside their friends and neighbors. Mr. Morris was a man of dedication and sacrifice serving his nation honorably for over twenty-two years in the United States Army. Fred received the National Defense Service Medal, the Bronze Star, the Vietnam Service Medal, six Good Conduct Medals, a Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and was an accomplished marksman qualifying with a .45 Cal Pistol. Among other tours of duty, Mr. Morris's career included assignments in Germany, Vietnam, and Korea. Retiring as a Seargent First Class, Fred's service to our great nation speaks of a man driven by honor and commitment, and we will forever be grateful for his sacrifice and service to our country and its people. While Mr. Morris was a dedicated soldier, he was also a man who enjoyed life. Fred never met a stranger and insisted he was just "Fred" or "Paw Paw" and was not to be called Mr. Morris, even if you just met him. Fred had a contagious fun-loving spirit, and he enjoyed joking and kidding with people. If you spent any time at all in his presence you were sure to find yourself laughing along with him. Fred was a loving husband to his wife, an adoring father to his son, a proud grandfather and great-grandfather to his babies. Mr. Morris knew the joy of God's many blessings and he cherished the family he had been given. His family will miss him greatly, but his legacy of sacrifice, commitment, and laughter will be remembered for generations to come. The Morris family will receive friends in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel on Wednesday evening, November 19, 2025, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Funeral services for Mr. Morris are Thursday, November 20, 2025, beginning at 1 p.m., with Tim Kenney and Mike King officiating. Funeral services will be held at the funeral home, followed by internment at New Hope #2 Cemetery where Mr. Morris will receive full military honors. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Morris family.

Daniel Lee Verner, 60
Daniel Lee Verner, age 60, of Crane Hill, passed away on Monday, November 17, 2025, at his residence. He was born December 8, 1964, to Bobby Verner, Sr. and Patricia Ann Massengill. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife, Tina Verner; daughter, Tiffany Haynes; 13 grandchildren; sister, Sandy (Jon) Oden; niece, Zariah Oden and his brother, Kenneth Verner. He loved spending time with his grandbabies and was loved by so many. He enjoyed the outdoors, antiques and working. He will be greatly missed. "Fly High Baby, I love you and will see you again."

Lena Ruth Bibby Littlefield, 76
Lena Ruth Bibby Littlefield, age 76, of Empire, Alabama, passed away on November 15, 2025. She was born in Oneonta, Alabama, and grew up in Robinwood, Tarrant, and Vincent before returning to Tarrant to raise her family. She is survived by her loving children Lisa (Henry) Lowery, Jeana (Scot) Alexander, Brandon Davis, and Krista (Brandon) Akira; grandchildren Chad Lowery, Christina Lowery (Matthew Freeman), Trinity Davis (Zac Smith), Micah Alexander, Reagan Alford, and Keaton Davis; and great-grandchildren Scarlett Freeman and Kavari Monroe. She was preceded in death by her grandson, Hunter Alexander. Lena was the beloved and only daughter of the late Ruben G. and Bernice Lindley Bibby, and sister to the late James Ruben (Sherry) Bibby and Donald Ray Bibby. She is survived by her brother Charles (Sue) Bibby, Judy Bibby and a wide circle of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and those whose lives she brightened. Lena had a successful career in advertising before retiring early to care for her mother—a testament to her selflessness and devotion to family. She was passionate about supporting causes close to her heart, including Alzheimer's awareness in memory of her mother and childhood cancer awareness in memory of her grandson. A lifelong Elvis fan and enthusiastic traveler, Lena lived her life with energy, adventure and a smile. A celebration of her life will be held Saturday, November 22, 2025, at Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home and Gardens in Trussville. Friends and family are cordially invited to the visitation at 11 a.m. with a service to follow at Noon, officiated by Rev. Stan Prewett. The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to Nancy Hammons for her faithfulness, commitment and love; Fresenius Kidney Care–Cullman under the direction of Dr. Thomas Watson and Brittney Nix for their exceptional care and compassion; The entire team at Woodland Village Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center-Cullman for their gentle care, patience and comfort; Angie Statham Leggett for her unwavering love and support, and Alabama Hospice Care for their dedication and comfort during Lena's final days at home. Lena will be remembered for her boundless spirit, her deep love for her family, and her unwavering kindness to all who knew her.

LTC Johnnie R. Strickland, AUS, (RET), 95
LTC Johnnie R. Strickland, AUS, (RET) of Cullman, Alabama Passed away Monday, November 17, 2025 at the age of 95. Funeral Service will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, November 21, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Bro. Dudley Brock officiating; burial at Hopewell Baptist Cemetery, Hanceville, Alabama. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. on Friday, November 21, 2025 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of the Arrangements. He was born as the third child of Newborn H. Strickland and Mary Ann Hallman Strickland of Tuscaloosa, AL on May 8, 1930. He was preceded in death by his wife of sixty six years, Patricia Ann Brooks Strickland; grandson John Connor Strickland; brothers, William D. Strickland of Cullman, Alabama, and George Walter Strickland of North Port, Alabama; niece Angela Kay Strickland Lockhart of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Left to cherish his memory are son, John Wayne Strickland (Jill) of Cullman, Alabama; daughter Mary Ann Strickland Veal (David) of Hoover, Alabama; grandchildren, Audrey (Blaine) Gato of Hanceville, Alabama, Annelyn (Roman) Verciglio of Hoover, Alabama and Evan Veal of Hoover, Alabama; great grandchild, John Sebastian Gato of Hanceville, Alabama; nieces Charmion Rae Strickland Potts of Moody, Alabama, Windy Dawn Strickland of Northport, Alabama; nephews, Rudea Dow Strickland (Iryna) of Cullman, Alabama and Scotty Strickland of Northport, Alabama. Both the Christian Church and the military have always been a large part of LTC Strickland's time and life. He made his profession of faith as a Christian after listening to a hell-fire and damnation sermon in late April 1948. It was just a few days shy of his eighteenth birthday. He often humorously referred to that sermon as the sermon that scared the hell out of him. Also, he often expressed gratitude to the unnamed minister who had the courage to preach that particular sermon at that particular time. It caused him to seriously examine his relationship with the Lord. That cardinal event was the beginning of (length of life as a 77 year Christian) years of varied Christian service. He joined a small rural Methodist Church that was less than a half-miler from his fathers farm in rural Tuscaloosa county. He spent eight years as a member of that church. Four of those eight years were spent in the U.S. Navy. All of his U.S. Navy time was enlisted service. Also all of those four years was during the Korean War (July 1950-July 1954). His job in the Navy was that of an Engine man. As such he always serviced on small diesel powered vessels, These type ships did not have chaplains or divine services like the larger ships. Also they spent most of their time at the sea and thus going to church was an impossibility. However, he knew the Christian life should be dynamic rather than static and thus a Christian should always be grooming in the faith. (II Timothy 2:15; II Peter 3:18). As a result of his job and assignment in the navy he took up scripture memorization as a way to grow in the Christian faith. He didn't realize it at the time but the Lord was preparing him for his next assignment in Sasebo, Japan. Sexual temptation was very strong at all U.S. Naval bases in Japan during the post-World War II. But the Holy Spirit was even stronger. When tempted to sin the Holy Spirit was always faithful to remind a Christian of the wages of sin. All true Christians learned the truth of the saying; "God's work will keep you from sin or sin will keep you from God's word. After his four years of naval service he met and married the love of his life, Patricia Ann Brooks Strickland, it was a wonderful marriage that lasted over sixty six years of earthly life but will last for all eternity. In their lifetime they were blessed with two wonderful children and four grandchildren. She wonderfully and faithfully served the Lord and His church for all of those almost sixty seven years. The Lord took her home on the 22nd of April 2023. At age 93 his service for the Lord is limited but he looks forward to the day when he joins her in heaven for all eternity. Until that day he lived at his home at 2609 County Road 616, Hanceville, Alabama. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make donations to Kairos Ministries or the John Connor Strickland Memorial Scholarship at Wallace State Community College.

Donna Eileen Maddux, 79
Donna Eileen Grabert Maddux, 79, of Hanceville, Alabama, passed away on November 17, 2025, at CRMC surrounded by her family. She was born on July 23, 1946, in New Orleans, Louisana to Jesse and Obie-Jane Grabert. Donna was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Jacqueline Jones and brother-in-law Robert Jones. She is survived by her children, Lavinia (Tamara) Maddux and Vince (Alex) Maddux; grandchildren Gary Maddux (Leslie Hudson), Kyle (Naomi) Maddux, and Sarah (Erick) Reza: and 8 great-grandchildren with one due in April 2026; sister Gwen Mancuso of Slidell. LA and many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Donna was an amazing pianist, playing for 10 churches in her 50 years of playing. She spent 43 years in the corrugated industry, with 36 right here in Cullman at Mis-South Packaging, later WestRock. She retired several years ago and enjoyed her retirement. There will be no funeral service. Her last wishes were for cremation and a celebration of life later. Those plans are not yet finalized and will be released by the family when completed.

Mark Steven Whisenhunt, 64
Mark Steven Whisenhunt, born on December 13, 1960, in Cullman, Alabama, passed away on November 17, 2025, at the age of 64. Mark is preceded in death by his parents: Luther and Maxine Whisenhunt. Mark was an Eagle Scout, a truck driver and an amazing fisherman and he had a great love for the outdoors. Mark was a graduate of Fairview High School. Mark is survived by: Wife: Wendy Whisenhunt, Daughters: Lindsey (Wesley) Slaton, Mallory (Justin) Jones, Emily Whisenhunt, Sons: Zachary (Kyria) Whisenhunt, Ryan (Logan) Whisenhunt, Sister: Rosemary (David) Herge, 11 Grandchildren and 1 Great Grandchild. A visitation will be held at Moss-Service Funeral Home, located at 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055, on November 20, 2025, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The funeral service will take place at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, situated at 512 Second Avenue SE, Cullman, AL 35055, on November 21, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mark will lie in state at the church for one hour prior to the service at 11 a.m. Mark was a resident of Holly Pond, Alabama. Please share condolences and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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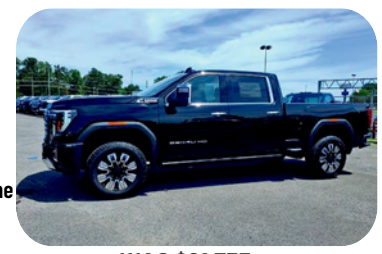
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