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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

No. 6 Addison's postseason run ends with 22-14 loss to No. 1 Wadley

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CCSO's annual rodeo returns Dec. 12-13

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Sheriff's Office's annual rodeo will return to the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center Dec. 12-13.

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry said the weekend kicks off Thursday, Dec. 11, with the Special Needs Rodeo — the most rewarding event of the year.

"Attendees will enjoy a true rodeo experience plus hay rides, stick horse racing and more," Gentry said. "This tradition is one of » PAGE 2



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Cullman County Sheriff's Office Deputy Shane Chambers gives a wagonful of attendees a ride at the 2018's Special Needs Rodeo at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center.

Christmas at the Grotto: 'There's something here that brings peace'



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The seventh annual Christmas at the Grotto is happening now at the Ave Maria Grotto in Cullman.

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Christmas at the Grotto has officially returned for its seventh year, inviting visitors into a peaceful, artistic and spiritually centered holiday experience at the beautiful Ave Maria Grotto.

What started as a small experiment in 2019 has grown into a beloved seasonal tradition.

Ave Maria Grotto Director Roger Steele introduced nighttime lighting in his first year on the job, opening the Grotto for just a few evenings.

"It went over fairly well... the next year I did it again, and we put lights on the entire park," Steele said.

"It grew that year, and by the third or fourth year, it really started to kind of take off."

Each year, the event expands, adding new features such as a towering star, nativity displays, Santa » PAGE 8

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Alex Golesh named Auburn's new head football coach



AUBURN ATHLETICS

Alex Golesh » PAGE 7

Cullman City Schools Foundation launches 'Paws for the Holidays' giving campaign » PAGE 8

Lockhart, Barnett named October CCBOE Teacher, Staff Member of the Month » PAGE 5

Check out a Little Free Library near you! » PAGE 3

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Dec. 1

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Dec. 1, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Nov. 24
- possession of forged instrument; CR 222
- theft of property; Day Gap Rd.
- domestic violence; CR 1806

Nov. 25
- assault; CR 138
- assault; Hwy. 69N
- criminal mischief; CR 1428
- domestic violence; Hwy. 69N

Nov. 26
- domestic violence; CR 46
- harassing communications; Young Rd.
- harassment; CR 1203
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1184
- harassment; CR 672
- theft of property; Main St. NW Hanceville
- possession of marijuana; resisting arrest; CR 672

Nov. 27
- assault; CR 584
- harassment; CR 657
- theft of property; Hwy. 69N
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 590

Nov. 28
- domestic violence; CR 1130
- burglary; CR 1490
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 1865

Nov. 29
- domestic violence; Mize Rd. N
- harassment; CR 518
- domestic violence; CR 147
- theft of property; 4th St. SW

Nov. 30
- theft of property; CR 437
- theft of property; CR 783

ARRESTS

Nov. 24-30

Bartee, Katherine L.; 43
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
- FTA – forged instrument
- FTA – counterfeiting
- FTA – burglary-residence-force
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Berry, Parrish C.; 59
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – theft-miscellaneous
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – forged instrument
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – counterfeiting

Blanton, Freda J.; 50
- FTA – expired license
- FTA – no seat belt (2 counts)
- FTA – driving while license suspended

Brown, Rachel J.; 51
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Butts, Latasha B.; 37
- FTA – no seat belt

Goff, Dexton W.; 19
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Honeyager, Celeste A.; 24
- public intoxication

Hyde, Jamie F.; 51
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- obstructing justice using a false identity-using person's identification documents or identifying information

Johnson, Christian S.; 28
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Kelso, Eddie L.; 56
- public intoxication

Little, Danny A.; 46
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- resisting arrest
- assault-harassment

Melvin, Johnathan R.; 33
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Moreno, Jr., Jonathan S.; 31
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – family offense-endangering welfare of child
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of drug paraphernalia

Nash, Angela M.; 31
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

North, Rachael N.; 40
- FTA – assault-child abuse-simple-family

Pugh, Gregory K.; 59
- stalking-2nd degree

Ramey, Shelton W.; 50
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled (4 counts)
- FTA – switched tag
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance (2 counts)
- FTA – no seat belt
- FTA – leaving the scene of an accident
- FTA – improper lane usage
- FTA – expired tag
- FTA – display of invalid insurance

Rice, Frank C.; 41
- DUI (controlled substances)

Rice, Nicholas M.; 40
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Rice, Rodney O.; 54
- GJ – theft-grand jury arrest warrant
- negotiating worthless instrument

Roberson, Kevin L.; 48
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance

Scott, James T.; 41
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Smith, Wesley E.; 42
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Swindall, Emma R.; 26
- possession of dangerous drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs (3 counts)
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree (2 counts)
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (3 counts)
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
- drug trafficking
- promote prison contraband (drugs)

Turner, David F.; 50
- PROBATION REVOKED – possession of drug paraphernalia

Twitty, Kenneth L.; 33
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Uselton, Dana M.; 36
- FTA – attempt to commit a crime-class C felony

Walker, Tommy J.; 25
- FTA – attempting to elude a police/law enforcement officer-serious injury or death/speed exceeds 20 mph over limit
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Wise, Justin D.; 41
- possession of dangerous drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Yates, Logan B.; 24
- FTA – assault-child abuse-simple-family (2 counts)

Yates, Mason J.; 22
- FTA – DUI (alcohol)

Young, Dustin R.; 36
- FTA – obstructing justice using a false identity
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Nov. 23
- harassment; person; Cleveland Ave. SW

Nov. 26
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; general merchandise; $43; 3rd St. SE

Nov. 27
- counterfeit $1's; State of Alabama

Nov. 28
- burglary-2nd degree; theft of property-4th degree; person; cash; Katherine St. NW
- theft of property-4th degree; person; cash; Hwy. 157

Nov. 29
- theft of property-1st degree; person; '94 Ford F150; $1,500
- theft of property-3rd degree; person; phone; $675; Marktplatz Ctr. SW
- theft of property-1st degree; person; '03 Chev. Tahoe, miscellaneous; 4th St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Fox Meadow Trl. SE

Nov. 30
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; '19 Ford F150; Sullivan Dr. SW
- criminal mischief; person; damage to '12 Honda CBR250R; $30; 3rd Ave. SW

ARRESTS

Nov. 26-30

Carter, Kenneth S.; 43
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Nash, Angela M.; 31
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Dauksza, Noah E.; 20
- FTA – fail to register vehicle
- FTA – insurance violation

North, Rachael N.; 40
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Johnson, Christian S.; 28
- FTA – disorderly conduct
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Stewart, Allie M.; 18
- domestic violence-3rd degree
- public intoxication

Shedd, Corey T.; 31
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Hyde, Jamie F.; 51
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – expired tag
- FTA – insurance violation

Ayers, Jr., James L.; 62
- retail theft of property-2nd 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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Rodeo (from Front)

the highlights of the year for the sheriff's office, and they look forward to it with great pride."

Gentry shared his gratitude and said he loves the relationship the CCSO has built with the community over the years.

"Every year, the rodeo is a reminder of how strong that bond is," Gentry said. "The number of sponsor banners continues to grow, and we're often at or over capacity. This year has the potential to sell out again. This is more than just a rodeo — it's a celebration of community, tradition and fun for the whole family. I encourage everyone to arrive early to grab seats for what promises to be another unforgettable year."

Gates open at 5 p.m. both days, with the kids' scramble at 7. and the rodeo performance at 7:30.

Tickets are cash only at the door. Adults are $10; children/students $8; kids 6 and younger get in free. An ATM will be available on-site.

For more information about the Cullman County Sheriff's Office Jimmy Arrington Memorial Rodeo, visit www.cullmansheriff.org/sheriffs-rodeo or www.facebook.com/cullman.sheriff.

The Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center is located at 17645 U.S. Highway 31.



JOB OPENING

The Soil and Water Conservation District

Assistant District Administrative Coordinator/Assistant Education Coordinator

Job requirements:
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills, with the ability to create and deliver presentations.
- Must have experience in computers and programs: Microsoft Word, Excel, QuickBooks, Access, PowerPoint, Canva, and others.
- Must have a valid driver's license and high school diploma or GED. College degrees and Agriculture experience are highly valuable.
- Full time with salary to be negotiable based on experience.

Send resume to: Kathy Holmes, kholmes@ cullmanswcd.com

Deadline for applications is January 15, 2026

Check out a Little Free Library near you!

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Little Free Library nonprofit organization was founded in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and now, you can find a Little Free Library in just about every community.

Little Free Library's main goal is to allow communities to have 24/7 access to free books. Its objective is to increase local access to reading materials and to promote literacy.

"Today in the United States, more than 30 million adults cannot read or write above a third-grade level," reads the website. "Studies have repeatedly shown that books in the hands of children have a meaningful impact on improving literacy."

So before you bring your most recent, or less recent, reads to the local thrift store, consider donating them to Little Free Libraries.

You have likely noticed several of these Little Free Libraries in and around Cullman County.

They are in areas such as Heritage Park, Art Park, West Point, Fairview, Baileyton and more!

Did you know there is a way to view all the locations nearest to you? You can access the Little Free Library map at www.littlefreelibrary.org/map or you can download the app on your phone. From there, you can type in your location and it will tell you the libraries closest to you.

These libraries suggest functioning on a "take a book, share a book" basis. In other words: take a book, leave a book.

Learn more at www.littlefreelibrary.org.

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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.

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Wednesday, Dec. 3 – 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area 5:15-5:30. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, Dec. 5 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Saturday, Dec. 6 – 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Kids Loving Kids Christmas Giveaway
• Sunday, Dec. 7 – 9 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11. 2 p.m. prayer service

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.

Cullman County Public Library – Main Branch
• The library is located at 200 Clark St. NE, Cullman.
• Wednesday, Dec. 3, at 10 a.m. Tanya Shearer will read a story she had published in the Christmas edition of "Chicken Soup for the Soul." After the story, patrons will be invited to make ornaments.
• Monday, Dec. 8, at 10 a.m. Cookies with Santa
• Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 10 a.m. Mrs. Claus will lead storytime

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, Dec. 3, at 10 a.m. "Let It Shine Puppets" presents a song and dance Christmas presentation
• Saturday, Dec. 6, at noon. Cullman County Christmas Parade. Come see our float – new this year!
• 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 bring a food dish. New Hanceville Mayor Paul Campbell will join us!
• Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 10 a.m. Mrs. Santa and author Dorenda Doyle ("The Kid and the Dog"). Take your picture with Mrs. Santa. Dorenda Doyle is an literacy advocate and writes an award-winning children's book series. She is an energetic, entertaining and enthusiastic author who goes the extra mile. Dorenda brings books to life through her engaging and interactive presentations. She has 30-plus years as an educator and curriculum writer. She motivates children to love to read and write!
• Wednesday, Dec. 24. The library will be closed. The staff wishes you all a Merry, Peaceful Christmas.
• Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Thursday, Jan. 1. The library will be closed.
• Tuesdays, Jan. 6, 20 and Feb. 3, 17, from 11 a.m.-noon New! Want to learn Spanish? This language has become the second language in America. Add this very easy language to your skills. Ms. Alejandra Pena has been teaching Spanish for over 16 years. She can teach to all ages. If you want to brush up on this language before college, sign up for the class, too. Call 256-352-0685 to sign up. This is a free class.

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
Through 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

7th Annual Christmas at the Grotto
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
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!

Town of West Point Christmas Tree Lighting
Friday, Dec. 5. Event starts at 5:30 p.m. Tree lighting at 6:30 at West Point Town Hall. The West Point High School Jazz Band will perform, as will Santa and Mrs. Claus. Letters to Santa. Free cookies, candy and hot chocolate.

Berlin Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast with Santa
Saturday, Dec. 6, from 7-10 a.m. at the Berlin Community Center. Plates are donation only. All proceeds assist Santa with Christmas. Pancakes, bacon/sausage. Dine-in plates include a drink.

Cullman VFW and Auxiliary Post 2214 Breakfast with Santa
Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9:30-11 a.m. at the Cullman VFW. Join Santa for breakfast. Get a picture with Santa. Kids get a present from Santa. Craft. Free and open to public. RSVP with age/gender of each child attending by Dec. 2 at Gina.Adams78@gmail.com.

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.

Baileyton Senior Center Community Christmas
Saturday, Dec. 6, from 5:30-8 p.m. Everyone welcome! Hot dogs, chips, popcorn, sno-cones and drinks. Free picture with Santa! Each child will receive a candy bag and a gift.

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.

Town of South Vinemont Christmas in the Park
Sunday, Dec. 7, from 4-6 p.m. at Vinemont Walking Trail/Art Park. Santa Claus, cookies and hot chocolate.

Curt's Closet Christmas Open House
Sunday, Dec. 7, from 4-6 p.m. at Curt's Closet. Enjoy a cozy cup of cocoa, fresh cookies and a picture with Santa while soaking in the holiday spirit. This is also a special opportunity to step behind the scenes at Curt's Closet...We can't wait to celebrate with our friends, neighbors and community members while sharing the heart of Curt's Closet this Christmas season.

NARFE December Meeting
The December meeting of the Cullman Chapter of NARFE, for all active and retired federal employees and spouses, is Monday, Dec. 8, at Freddie Day Catering. The program will be a game of dirty Santa. Suggested gift price $15. Dutch lunch at 11 a.m. prior to program at noon.

Christmas on the Corner Family Meal
Thursday, Dec. 11, from 6-7:30 p.m. at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church. Free, family-style Christmas meal and celebration hosted at St. John's in partnership with The Link of Cullman County. The St. John's team is preparing a lush Christmas meal of roasted pork loin, roasted potatoes, green beans and rolls with PLENTY of desserts and treats! Please join us for Christmas caroling, treats, a Christmas reading and a visit from Old Saint Nick himself! Toys will be provided for all children age 12 and younger. Seating is limited and you MUST RSVP. Stop by The Link or call 256-775-0028 to reserve your spot. We can't wait to ring in the Christmas season with you!

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."

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Christmas Singing
Sunday, Dec. 14, at 5 p.m. with The Kellys from Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278 East, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information, call 256-339-1863 or 256-590-1501. Everyone is invited.

Vinemont Community Lunch for Seniors
Monday, Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center. 55 and older. Come join us! We will be having a pie/cake contest; bring your best holiday pie/cake for a chance to win a $25 Walmart gift card. Hope to see you all there, and Happy Holidays.

Cullman County Commission on Aging Senior Christmas Party
Tuesday, Dec. 16. Doors open at 9 a.m. Event starts at 10 at the Cullman OmniPlex. We're inviting all Cullman County seniors (ages 55+) to come celebrate the season with music, door prizes, food, laughter and holiday cheer. This year's celebration will be brighter, jollier and more joyful than ever – you won't want to miss it! | Reserve your spot by Dec. 4, by calling 256-734-1241.

WE NOW HAVE APPLES!
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 2, 2025

PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

No. 6 Addison's postseason run ends with 22-14 loss to No. 1 Wadley

Todd Walker
Tribune Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. — The 6th ranked Addison Bulldogs hosted the top ranked Wadley Bulldogs in front of a packed house at A.G. Hicks Stadium in the 1A North semifinal Friday night. What many thought would be a lopsided victory for Wadley turned into a fantastic game that went down to the wire. It was a tale of two halves, with Wadley winning the first and Addison outplaying Wadley in the second. Addison turnovers doomed their upset bid but take nothing away from Addison as they answered the call and gave top ranked Wadley all they wanted and more in a 22-14 loss.

It was a defensive first quarter, as Addison received the opening kickoff. After gaining a first down, Wadley's Jabari Burns sacked Addison QB Elijah Roberts forcing a punt. Addison forced a Wadley three and out and got the ball back. Addison picked up another first down but was forced to punt again.

Wadley took over at their own 48 and after a penalty, facing a second and twenty, Wadley QB Demarious Spraddling found Frisco Robertson on a bubble pass and after making about six Addison defenders miss, he rambled down to the Addison 28. Six plays later, Wadley's super man and Auburn commit Jacquez Wilkes rumbled in from four yards out giving Wadley the early 6-0 lead. Wilkes ran in the two-point conversion and Wadley led 8-0 with 2:27 to go in the first quarter.

After forcing another Addison punt, Wadley's Spraddling hit Robertson again this time from 64 yards out for the touchdown. Wadley missed the two-point attempt and with over 8 minutes to go in the first half, Wadley led 14-0.

The next four possessions, two for each team, ended in turnovers. Addison's Major Snoddy recovered a Fumble. Wadley's Wilkes intercepted a pass inside his own 10-yard line. Addison's Connor Lane got his tenth interception of the season, but Addison gave it right back on a Spraddling interception. This is how the half ended with Wadley ahead 14-0.

Addison kicked off to start the second half and pulled a little trickeration. The onside kick was unexpected, and Addison's Trennon Burns recovered the onside kick. Addison tried to run the ball with little effectiveness, so Roberts went to the air and found Michael Lee for 11 yards and a first down.

Then facing a fourth-and-a-ten from the Wadley 34, Roberts found Scout Flynn streaking down the home sideline and Flynn reeled in the catch and ran in the final 10 yards for an Addison touchdown. Roberts then found Lee for the two-point conversion and at the 9:59 mark of the third quarter, the score was Wadley 14 - Addison 8.

Wadley's next drive had them run 10 straight running plays with Wilkes carrying the ball on 8 of them. With Wadley facing a fourth down and six to go from the Addison 36, Wadley went for it. Everyone in the stadium knew who was getting the ball and so did the fired-up Dawg Pound Defense. Wilkes took the handoff and was swarmed under with Joey Wilson leading the defense to the ball. Wilkes got a yard but needed six.

Addison took over and 13 plays later; they had gotten to the Wadley 4-yard line. Facing a second and goal from the four, Addison attempted a fade pass to the corner of the endzone, but Wadley's Robertson made a fantastic play on the pass and picked it off ending the drive.

Wadley took over at their own 20 and two plays later they were facing a fourth and one from their own 29. Apparently, Wadley had utter disdain for the Bulldog defense, or they had extreme confidence in Wilkes. They ran Wilkes again and were stopped for no gain. Again, the Addison defense responded.

It took Addison four plays for Roberts to find Burns for the 6-yard touchdown pass. The extra point was no good and with 5:49 to go in the fourth quarter and with all the momentum the game was tied at 14.

Addison then attempted another on-side kick, this time not successful. On Wadley's first play, Cortavion Lynch ran around the right end for 45 yards giving Wadley the first and goal from the 6-yard line. Three plays later, Wilkes bulldozed his way in from 6 yards out for another touchdown. Lynch ran in the two-point and Wadley led 22-14 with 3:59 to go in the game.

Addison took over at their own 36. Roberts gained 6 yards on first down and then found Judah Wilkins 36 yards down the field. Wilkins made a beautiful diving catch, giving Addison the ball at the Wadley 23-yard line with a little over 3 minutes to go.

Three plays later, Addison was facing a fourth and one from Wadley's 14-yard line and had to go for it. The Addison running back appeared to run into a wall of Wadley Bulldogs and lost a yard. This gave Wadley the ball with only a minute and half left in the game.

Instead of kneeling it, Wadley gave the ball to Wilkes and he gained 15 yards. No explanation for that choice of play unless the coach was trying to get Wilkes a 100-yard rushing day and that run pushed him over the century mark. Two kneel downs ended the game and Addison's season. Wadley took the game 22-14 and will move on to play Maplesville in the state title game next Thursday in Birmingham.



BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Addison fell to top-ranked Wadley in the 1A semifinals 22-14 Friday night.



BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Addison finishes 12-2 and put together a tremendous season that included a region championship, county championship and semi-final appearance. Addison also has the luxury of returning the vast majority of their team for the 2026 season. Should be another great year for Coach Mark Hastings Bulldogs. The Addison seniors this season are Seth Hammack, Casen Hill, Brye Dollar, Lance Kennedy, Stone Talley (injured all season), Shelton Alexander, Brodie Willingham and Trennon Burns. Thank you gentlemen for giving it your all this season we wish you nothing but success in the future.

Unofficial stats

Addison ran 33 running plays for 102 yards. Addison ran 26 passing plays for 151 yards. Addison ran a total of 59 plays for 253 total yards. Wadley ran 37 running plays for 213 yards.

Wadley ran 8 passing plays for 100 yards. Wadley ran a total of 45 plays for 313 total yards.

Addison's Roberts went 13 completions in 26 attempts for 151 yards, 1 touchdown and 3 interceptions. Wadley's Spraddling went 4 completions in 8 attempts for 100 yards and a touchdown and interception.

Addison's Roberts led in rushing with 19 carries for 83 yards. Seth Hammack had 8 carries for 13 yards. Zane Smith 5 carries for 7 yards. Wadley had Wilkes run for a game high 112 yards on 21 carries with 2 touchdowns. Lynch had 10 carries for 88 yards.

Addison had Burns with 5 catches for 43 yards and a touchdown. Flynn had 2 catches for 49 yards and a touchdown. Wilkins had 1 catch for 36 yards. Hammack had 3 catches for 5 yards. Lee had 1 catch for 11 yards. Snoddy had 1 catch for 7 yards. Wadley had Robertson with 2 catches for 94 yards and a touchdown. Wilkes had 1 catch for 6 yards.

On defense

Addison was led in tackles by Roberts and Wilkins with 6 each. Hill, Snoddy, Lane and Willingham had 4 each. Joey Wilson and Skylar Cleghorn had 3 each. Snoddy had a fumble recovery. Lane had an interception. Burns recovered an onside kick. Wadley was led by Wilkes with 8 tackles and an interception. Jabari Burns, Desmond Thomas and Jaylon Marable each had 5. Burns had a sack. Robertson and Spraddling had an interception.



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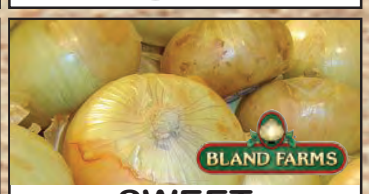
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Buy local this holiday season: RedBird Farm

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

The season of giving is upon us! What better way to show your love and appreciation than with a local, hand-crafted gift?

RedBird Farm is a hobby farm located just outside of Oneonta that helps individuals explore and embrace rural living. It offers locally grown products, art classes and plenty of farm-related fun.



ABBY PATTERSON

RedBird Farm carries a variety of soap bars.

Self-care products include:

Whipped tallow
- 2 ounces for $12
- 4 ounces for $20
- 8 ounces for $30

Soap bars
Soaps are typically $7 or you can snag 3 for $20. They are all-natural goat milk with no artificial dyes and use essential oils only or organic fragrances. The current scents available are:

- Balsam Fir
- Gingerbread
- Iced Sugar Plum
- Orange & Bergamot
- Cranberry & Clove
- Sweater Weather
- Mint & Patchouli
- Apple Maple Bourbon
- Iced Vanilla Woods

RedBird Farm also offers natural, aluminum- and baking soda-free deodorant. These come in 2-ounce tubes for $12 with the following scents:

- Citrus Melon
- Citrus Vanilla
- Stillwater Coast
- Midnight Rosewood
- Beach Bum

RedBird is currently launching a new selection of bath salts. These are 14-ounce bags for $15 and have three different scented selections:

- Orange Bergamot
- Mint Patchouli
- Oatmeal Honey

Interested in something more immersive? Perhaps creative, Christmastime fun? RedBird Farm also offers personalized art classes!

You can get the Sip N' Stroke Experience for $300. This is a casual, fun opportunity for adults to explore their artistic ability. This includes up to 10 friends, light refreshments and supplies for two hours.

Pricing is generally $30 a person; price can vary depending on the number of people.

And don't forget the Kids Paint Party! Who wouldn't love a paint party at RedBird Farm? This is also $300, which includes 15 friends, a fun snack and a painting. Supplies are provided and the kids will be guided through a fun, hands-on art experience.



ABBY PATTERSON

RedBird Farm booth inventory at Christmas in Cleveland

Abby Patterson of RedBird Farm stated, "I have homeschool art classes here every Tuesday called 'Art on the Farm.'"

Classes are currently full at 19, but she is looking to open up Wednesday classes in January.

Find additional information at www.redbird-farm.com or Facebook/RedBird Farm.

Month (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Schools recently congratulated Elizabeth Lockhart and Zane Barnett for being named the October Employees of the Month.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH
Elizabeth Lockhart,
Science, Fairview High

"Ms. Lockhart goes above and beyond to provide exceptional educational experiences for everyone every day. Not only does she do this for her students, but she hosts a spooky science day at Parkside and Fairview Elementary for the entire school," said a media release from the CCBOE. "She works diligently with her students to create engaging science experiments and stations for the schools and devotes so much time and effort to making this day an unforgettable experience for PreK-12 graders."

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH
Zane Barnett, Maintenance,
Hanceville schools

Zane Barnett handles maintenance for all Hanceville schools. "He is a jack of all trades at our campus," said Daniel Wakefield, Hanceville High principal. "He not only handles all maintenance issues, but he tiles restrooms, frames new rooms for our projects, builds picnic tables and has completed multiple other projects. He helps unload buses in the mornings and helps control traffic in the afternoons. I cannot think of anybody in Cullman County that would be more deserving of this award than Zane Barnett."

Cullman County Schools thanked AmFirst for donating a $100 gift card to each Employee of the Month.



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Pictured left to right are Dr. Brad Stapler/Fairview High principal, Dr. Shane Barnette/Cullman County Schools superintendent, Elizabeth Lockhart/AmFirst Teacher of the Month, Daniel Boggan/AmFirst Cullman branch manager and Beverly Cochran/AmFirst membership development coordinator.



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Pictured left to right are Daniel Wakefield/Hanceville High principal, Maggie Barnett/ paraprofessional, Zane Barnett/AmFirst Staff Member of the Month, Dr. Shane Barnette/ Cullman County Schools superintendent, Daniel Boggan/AmFirst Cullman branch manager and Angela Clark-Blair/AmFirst regional development coordinator.

FCCLA students lead in service at the Farm-City Banquet

Stephanie Blair
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — FCCLA members from Cold Springs, Vinemont and Holly Pond schools, as well as Cullman Christian School, demonstrated leadership, professionalism and a strong commitment to service as they volunteered at the annual Cullman Farm City-Banquet held on Nov. 20, 2025, at Loft 212. These outstanding students represented their schools and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America programs with pride as they assisted guests, served meals and supported event organizers.



STEPHANIE BLAIR

FCCLA members from Cold Springs, Vinemont, Holly Pond and Cullman Christian schools volunteered at the annual Cullman Farm-City Banquet, held Nov. 20, 2025, at Loft 212.

The Farm-City Banquet celebrates the partnership between the agricultural community and local businesses, honoring those who make a positive difference in Cullman County.

The presence of FCCLA members added warmth and efficiency to the event, helping ensure the evening ran smoothly from start to finish.

By serving at the Farm-City Banquet, these young leaders not only supported an important county tradition, but also gained valuable experience in teamwork, communication, and community involvement.

Their dedication reflects the mission of FCCLA and the strong community service focus within Family and Consumer Sciences programs across the county.



Holiday movie guide

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

Looking for the perfect holiday watch? From heartfelt romances to action-packed adventures, these seasonal favorites bring the magic, chaos and charm of Christmas to your home. Whether you're having a family movie night or hosting a Christmas party, there is a film on this list for everyone.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" (1966)
Based on the children's book "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," the grumpy Grinch tries to steal Christmas away from the friendly folk of Whoville and finds himself surrounded by Christmas cheer.

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" (1965)
The Peanuts gang learns the true meaning of Christmas as a discouraged Charlie Brown struggles to find holiday spirit, only to be uplifted when Linus shares the Nativity story. Their friends come together to transform Charlie Brown's little tree and celebrate the season.

"Home Alone" (1990)
8-year-old Kevin McCallister is accidentally left home alone during his family's trip to Paris and has fun having the house all to himself until he must outsmart two bumbling burglars determined to break in.

"Home Alone 2: Lost in New York" (1992)
Kevin McCallister is separated from his family again and ends up going on an adventure in New York City. But when he discovers the Sticky Bandits' plan to strike again and rob a toy store on Christmas Eve, he sets out to stop them on his own.

"The Polar Express" (2004)
A young boy is whisked away on a magical train on a journey to the North Pole, seeing the magic of Christmas. He discovers that wonder endures for those who choose to believe.

"Frosty the Snowman" (1969)
A magical top hat brings Frosty the Snowman to life, but when the evil magician wants it back, Frosty and a young girl named Karen race to get him to the North Pole before he melts.

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" (1964)
A misfit reindeer sets out to find his place in the world, befriending fellow misfit toys on his journey, and saves Christmas with his shining red nose.

"The Santa Clause" (1994)
After accidentally causing Santa Claus to fall from his roof, Scott Calvin is told he must take over the role. As Christmas approaches, he reluctantly transforms into the new Santa while trying to convince others that the magic is real.

"The Grinch" (2018)
The Grinch lives in Mt. Crumpit with his dog Max, growing increasingly irritated by the Whos' festive celebrations. When they plan an even bigger Christmas, he disguises himself as Santa and schemes to steal the holiday in hopes of finally finding some peace.

"Disney's Small One" (1978)
-A young boy is heartbroken when his family tells him he must sell his donkey, Small One. As they search for a kind new owner, the boy and Small One embark on a touching journey that leads them to a humble man in need of a very special donkey.

"Babes in Toyland" (1961)
In Mother Goose Village, Mary Contrary and Tom Piper are torn apart when the villainous Barnaby schemes to steal Mary's inheritance by having Tom eliminated and her sheep stolen. After a series of adventures, Tom, Mary and the children ultimately outwit Barnaby, restore order and celebrate a joyful wedding.

"The Muppet Christmas Carol" (1992)
The Muppets retell Dickens' classic, "A Christmas Carol." With help from Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy, Gonzo, Fozzie and the rest of the Muppets, Scrooge confronts his mistakes and finds a path to redemption.

"Santa Claus is Comin' to Town" (1970)
A friendly mailman narrates the origin of Santa Claus, telling how young Kris Kringle, raised by an elf family, defies the toy-banning Burgermeister Meisterburger and the fearsome Winter Warlock. Through courage and kindness, Kris begins delivering toys to Sombertown's children and eventually becomes the legendary Santa known around the world.

"The Little Drummer Boy" (1968)
After losing his parents to bandits, young Aaron travels with his loyal animals and a cruel caravan master, his only comfort being the drum that brings his companions joy. Following the Magi to Bethlehem, Aaron offers his music as a gift to the newborn baby and, in doing so, finds healing, hope and the restoration of his beloved lamb.

"Mickey's Once Upon a Christmas" (1999)
Mickey and his friends tell three stories, including A Very Goofy Christmas and Mickey and Minnie's Gift of the Magi.

"Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas" (2004)
-This collection features three festive Mickey & Friends adventures: "Belles of Ice," where Minnie and Daisy's friendship is tested during a competitive ice-skating show; "Christmas Impossible," in which Huey, Dewey and Louie sneak to the North Pole to escape Santa's naughty list; and "Mickey's Dog-Gone Christmas," where Pluto runs away after accidentally spoiling Mickey's decorations.

"Emmet Otter's Jugband Christmas" (1977)
Emmet and Ma Otter are poor but loving musicians who each secretly enter a local talent contest, hoping to win the $50 prize to buy the other a special Christmas gift. With Emmet joining a jug band and Ma performing solo up against the rowdy Riverbottom Gang, they discover that their greatest gift is the music they share.

"It's a Wonderful Life" (1946)
When George Bailey loses his will to live and believes the world will be better without him, an angel shows him how many lives he has touched—and how different the world would be without him.

"White Christmas" (1954)
Army buddies turned Broadway stars Bob Wallace and Phil Davis fall for aspiring singers Betty and Judy while performing in Florida, navigating romantic mishaps before a joyful Christmas Eve performance and a magical snowfall bring everyone together.

"Miracle on 34th Street" (1947)
When Kris Kringle fills in for an intoxicated Santa in Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, his charm convinces everyone he might genuinely be Santa Claus. But when he claims he really is, a court must decide whether he's sane or the real deal.

"Winnie the Pooh: A Very Merry Pooh Year" (2002)
Pooh and his friends celebrate Christmas and the New Year.

"Mickey's Christmas Carol" (1983)
-A heartfelt retelling of the classic Dickens tale with Disney's beloved characters like Mickey Mouse, Goofy and many more.

"Disney's A Christmas Carol" (2009)
Ebenezer Scrooge dismisses Christmas, but when the ghost of his former partner warns him of three visiting spirits, he is taken on a journey through his past, present and future in hopes of changing.

FUN FOR THE GROWN-UPS

"Merry Christmas, Mr. Bean" (1992)
Mr. Bean goes to town to prepare for the holiday in his usual, comedic style.

"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (1989)
Clark Griswold is determined to create the perfect family Christmas, but everything spirals into chaos with the arrival of unexpected relatives and the anxious waiting for his Christmas bonus. Despite the craziness, he fights to keep the traditional family Christmas spirit alive.

"A Christmas Story" (1983)
Ralphie Parker spends the holiday season dreaming of his perfect gift, a Red Ryder BB gun, while dodging bullies, dealing with family and hoping he can make it to Christmas with his glasses still intact.

"Elf" (2003)
After being raised by Santa's elves in the North Pole, Buddy the Elf travels to New York to find his real dad, Walter Hobbs, leading to a series of chaotic attempts to bond and discover where he truly belongs.

"Love Actually" (2003)
Nine interconnected stories explore the many forms of love — from a prime minister falling for his staffer, to a woman torn between romance and caring for her brother, and many more touching stories.

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (2000)
A live-action adaptation of "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," Jim Carrey brings the bitter Grinch to life in a holiday comedy fit for older children and adults.

"Serendipity" (2001)
A fantastical holiday romantic comedy about two strangers whose magical encounter leaves them wondering if fate intends to reunite them years later.

A Christmas Carol (1984)
Ebenezer Scrooge gets a visit from the ghosts of Christmases past, present and future.

"Die Hard" (1988)
A New York cop's Christmas visit turns into a high-stakes battle when terrorists seize a Los Angeles skyscraper — leaving John McClane as the only one who can save the hostages.

"The Family Man" (2000)
A high-powered businessman wakes up on Christmas morning in an alternate life — married to the college sweetheart he once left behind. Forced to choose between his ambitious career and a simpler life filled with love, he discovers what truly matters before it's too late.

"Scrooged" (1988)
Bill Murray plays a cynical TV executive who is forced to face his past, present and future when three eccentric ghosts visit him on Christmas Eve.

"Red One" (2024)
When Santa is kidnapped, an elite E.L.F. operative teams up with the world's most excellent tracker on a high-stakes mission to save Christmas before time runs out.

"The Family Stone" (2005)
An uptight businesswoman accompanies her boyfriend to his eccentric and outgoing family's annual Christmas celebration and finds that she's a fish out of water in their free-spirited way of life. (IMDB) This gem stars the late, great Diane Keaton.

"The Holiday" (2006)
Amanda lives in LA and is a movie trailer editor. Iris lives in Surrey and is a journalist. The two decide to swap houses for two weeks at Christmas – both trying to forget their troubled love lives, until love finds them anyways. (IMDB)

OP-ED

The 1-hour glucose test

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

Let's talk about the one-hour glucose test. For those of you who don't know what this is, allow me to explain. This is a mandatory test during pregnancy that measures the amount of glucose (sugar) in your bloodstream. This checks for gestational diabetes, which can pose increased risk to the baby and mama-to-be.

You fast and have to drink the provided beverage, on an empty stomach, before waiting in the lobby for an hour to get labs done. Sounds simple, right?

Before I even considered being a parent I heard constant glucose test horror stories and every worst case scenario you can imagine. Once we found out we were expecting, these stories flooded my feed and became unbearable.

For the longest time, I feared the test. I was so worried about the drink and not being able to finish it. I had to unfollow several mom vlogs to keep from consuming these stories. Everyone emphasized how badly it tasted, though that wasn't the issue for me.

One thing to know about this test is that you have five minutes to drink the glucose tolerance beverage. If you were to vomit before your hour is up and before you get your bloodwork - you've failed.

So there I was in my little waiting room, clutching this orange beverage, and praying that I don't hurl. I take the first sip and, to my surprise, it's not that bad. It tastes exactly like a flat orange soda. I pace drinking it over the course of those five minutes and I'm feeling great. I even make sure to get every last drop. I turn in the empty drink to my nurse and she directs me to the lobby of the lab where I'll spend the next hour awaiting bloodwork.

I strut down the hallway and feel so elated that I made it. I finished the drink and didn't feel the least bit nauseated. Though I've still got roughly 45 minutes to kill before my bloodwork. I spend the rest of that time on my phone. I scroll through social media, read some funny stories and anything to keep my mind busy just in case I start feeling nauseous.

I look up from my phone to scan my surroundings, as per usual, and say to myself, "The lighting in here is pretty hazy. I really should have brought my glasses in." At this point I have 15 minutes before I get my labs done.

I look back down at my phone to avoid the "hazy lights" when my vision tunnels.

"Oh, no," I think. My entire body goes into panic mode. I've had blackouts in the past due to low iron and they usually start with blurred vision and losing my hearing.

As soon as the thought leaves my mind that I may be about to pass out and need to ask someone for help, my ears explode with static. The sweat is creeping up my neck and I know that I have to alert someone that I am not ok.

Thankfully I sat right next to one of the receptionists' rooms. I don't remember standing up. I only remember having the realization that I needed to ask for help and then the words leaving my mouth while standing in front of the receptionist saying, "I'm really dizzy."

I'm advised to sit down and that she would let one of the nurses know. Within what felt like two seconds, a nurse came through the door closest to me and called my name to come back and lay down. I spent the next 10 minutes lying there, fanning myself and battling what I surely thought would result in me passing out. Thankfully, after time and splashing cold water on my face, I was fine.

The nurses were super supportive and one lady even came in to fan me while the other drew blood. I left thinking surely I had failed, given my reaction to the drink. Though, a few hours later, and after one of the best naps, I got a call that I had passed.

Take it from me and be prepared for whatever your test looks like. It is best to understand that every person's experience is unique. My experience isn't going to be your experience!

Now, don't do what I did and go alone, wearing a heavy sweater into a packed Alabama waiting room. Take precautions and wear comfy clothes, have a support system and maybe bring a tiny, handheld fan.

I suggest doing a little research beforehand, but don't fall for the fear mongering. I thought these reactions stemmed from not being able to tolerate the drink, but turns out it's pretty common. I didn't realize some people had these reactions simply because that is a lot of sugar on an empty stomach.

My reaction, while not the most pleasant, didn't indicate a negative result and with a very attentive nursing staff, was very tolerable. Go into the experience with an open mind and with the knowledge that there are people there to help you through it! No matter what your result is, you are strong and you've got this.

LEGALS

SELF STORAGE LIEN AUCTION (IN ACCORDANCE WITH AL CODE § 8-15-46): The following self-storage units containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by In-N-Out Self Storage 106 13th Street SW Cullman, AL 35055 to satisfy a lien on December 17, 2025 at 10:00 AM at storagetreasures.com : Unit 276 Andrew Rich ; Unit 413 Regena Mays ; Unit 425 Lesley Hurst.

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2025-405

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF RHONDA KAY MOTES, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Christy McGriff Atchley on the 21st day of November, 2025, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Christy McGriff Atchley
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
CARY ALAN NAIL, * **CASE NO.: PC 2025-431**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to CARY ALAN NAIL on the 1st day of December, 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 later to occur or the same will be barred.

MEGAN NAIL SEARS
Personal Representative

Thomas E. Drake II
Attorney for Petitioner
419 2nd Avenue SW
Suite B
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-739-9445

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

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

DONE this 1st day of December, 2025

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

Case# PC2025-412
PB WIL Book:134 Page:548
Recorded In Above Book and
11/21/2025 4:32PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
RONALD DALE WOODARD, * **CASE NO.: PC2025-412**
Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: SAVANNA BURGETT
ETHAN BURGETT

ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a hearing on the *Petition for Probate of Will,* filed by Shawna W. Norman and Jennifer W. Arndt, Petitioners, by and through their Attorney of record, Sherry H. Barrett, is set for a hearing on the **10th day of February, 2026, at 10:00 am**. Before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Done this the 21st 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 is said newspaper.

Attorney for Petitioners:

Sherry H. Barrett
P.O. Box 398
Cullman Al. 35056

Golesh (from Front)

Auburn Athletics
Contributor

AUBURN, Ala. — Widely regarded as one of the top offensive minds in college football, Alex Golesh has been named Auburn Football's head coach, Athletics Director John Cohen announced Sunday.

The 33rd head coach in program history, Golesh comes to The Plains following three highly successful seasons leading the South Florida program from 2023-25.

Golesh engineered a rapid rebuild of the USF program, and under his leadership the Bulls recorded 23 wins over the last three seasons including a 9-3 mark in 2025. Prior to Golesh's arrival in Tampa, the Bulls had won just four games over the prior three seasons.

"We are thrilled to announce Alex Golesh as the 33rd head coach of Auburn Football," Cohen said. "He has produced wins and record-setting results throughout his entire career, including over the last three seasons at USF. Alex is known nationally for his player development prowess, ability to shape creative and explosive offenses, and his relentless approach to building winning programs. I was also struck by his coaching experience on both sides of the ball. In our conversations, he showed the determination and edge that this program demands of its head coach. I want to welcome Alex, his wife Alexis and children Corbin and Barrett to the Auburn Family."

His offenses have consistently been among the nation's most productive and highest scoring, averaging more than 35 points per game and 450 yards per game during his time with the Bulls.

This year, the USF offense ranks No. 2 nationally in total offense (501.7), No. 5 in scoring (43.0) and has posted 500-plus yards in eight of its last nine regular season games. South Florida has recorded the top two passing seasons in program history with Golesh at the helm in 2023 and 2025, while quarterback Byrum Brown became just the 12th 3,000-yard passer/1,000-yard rusher in FBS history this year.

The Bulls rank in the top 25 of 20 national statistical categories, including 11 offensive, seven defensive and two special teams statistics.

"I want to thank President Roberts and John Cohen for the opportunity to lead the Auburn program," Golesh said. "Auburn Football is one of the proudest, most tradition-rich programs in all of college football and my family and I could not be more excited to join the Auburn Family. This will be a player-driven program, and no one will outwork our staff.

"Auburn has won, can win and will win championships. Let's get to work."

Golesh's leadership also included a boost to USF's recruiting with the top-rated signing classes in the American Athletic Conference in both 2024 and 2025.

In 2025, USF returned to the AP Top 25 for the first time since 2018 and recorded consecutive victories over ranked opponents for the first time in program history after season opening victories over Boise State and Florida.

He is also the first coach to lead USF to bowl eligibility in his first three seasons, including postseason victories in both 2023 and 2024.

"Coach Golesh has experienced tremendous success at every step, rising through the ranks from an assistant coach to coordinator and now as a head coach," Auburn President Christopher B. Roberts said. "He is an outstanding fit for Auburn as a proven program builder with an elite offensive mind. We are excited to welcome Alex and his family to the Auburn Family."

South Florida closed the 2024 season with victories in five of its final seven games while leading the nation in scoring in November despite losing its starting quarterback early in the year.

In his first season in 2023, Golesh reshaped the USF offense with blistering tempo and high-efficiency offensive production. His first South Florida team engineered the largest single-season turnaround in school history and the second largest in FBS in 2023, jumping from 1–11 to 7–6 and producing a 45-0 bowl win over Syracuse, the largest shutout victory in NCAA bowl history.

Before taking over at USF, Golesh spent two seasons as offensive coordinator and tight ends coach at Tennessee from 2021-22, engineering one of the most dramatic offensive turnarounds in the nation. The Vols climbed from No. 108 nationally in total offense before his arrival to No. 7 in 2021 and No. 1 in 2022.

His 2022 unit led the country in scoring (47.3 ppg), total offense (538.1 ypg), yards per play (7.35), and points per possession, and was the only offense in the nation to average more than 300 passing yards and 200 rushing yards per game. He coached Biletnikoff Award winner Jalin Hyatt and Maxwell Award finalist Hendon Hooker, both of whom shattered school records. For his efforts, he was a finalist for the prestigious Broyles Award.

At UCF in 2020, he coordinated an offense that ranked second nationally in total offense and produced a Biletnikoff Award finalist. At Iowa State (2016–19), he served as tight ends coach and recruiting coordinator, helping secure the four highest-ranked recruiting classes in program history and contributing to a turnaround that sparked a run of five straight bowl appearances. His tight end groups produced multiple all-conference selections, including first-team All-American and Mackey Award semifinalist Charlie Kolar.

During his four seasons at Illinois (2012–15), Golesh helped the Illini climb from two wins to back-to-back bowl appearances while serving as tight ends coach, running backs coach, recruiting coordinator, and special teams coordinator. Prior to that, he played a key role in Toledo's rise from 3–9 to consecutive bowl seasons (2009–11) and helped sign the MAC's No. 1 recruiting class in back-to-back years.

Golesh began his coaching career as a student assistant at Ohio State from 2004-05, where he worked with the defensive staff during the Buckeyes' 2005 Big Ten championship and Fiesta Bowl win. He later held defensive graduate assistant roles at Northern Illinois (2006-07) and Oklahoma State (2008).

Across his career, Golesh has coached 14 bowl teams and helped send multiple players to the NFL, including Hooker, Hyatt, Marlon Williams, Charlie Kolar, Jacob Harris, and Velus Jones Jr. He was named to the AFCA 35 Under 35 Coaches Leadership Institute in 2019 and has twice been recognized nationally as one of the sport's rising coaches on CBS Sports' "Top 15 Coaches Under 40" (2023) and ESPN's "30 Coaches Who Will Define the Next Decade" (2024).

Golesh was born in Moscow, Russia, and raised in Brooklyn and Dublin, Ohio. He earned his bachelor's degree in education from Ohio State in 2006. He and his wife, Alexis, have two children — daughter Corbin and son Barrett.

COACHING HISTORY

- 2004-05: Ohio State, Student Assistant
- 2006-07: Northern Illinois, Graduate Assistant
- 2008: Oklahoma State, Graduate Assistant
- 2009-11: Toledo, Tight Ends/Recruiting Coordinator
- 2012-13: Illinois, Tight Ends/Recruiting Coordinator
- 2014: Illinois, Running Backs/Tight Ends/Recruiting Coordinator
- 2015: Illinois, Tight Ends/Special Teams Coordinator
- 2016-19: Iowa State, Tight Ends/Recruiting Coordinator
- 2020: UCF, Co-Offensive Coordinator/Tight Ends
- 2021-22: Tennessee, Offensive Coordinator/Tight Ends
- 2023-25: USF, Head Coach
- 2026-present: Auburn, Head Coach

PERSONAL

- Education: B.S., Education (Ohio State, 2006)
- Hometown: Dublin, Ohio
- Wife: Alexis
- Children: Corbin and Barrett

CAREER COACHING HONORS

- 2025 Paul Bear Bryant Coach of the Year Watch List
- 2025 Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year Watch List
- 2024 ESPN's "30 Coaches Who Will Define the Next Decade"
- 2023 CBS Sports' "Top 15 Coaches Under 40"
- 2022 Broyles Award Finalist

Obituary Announcements: Nov. 29 - Dec. 1

Mary Hendrix Johnson, 93

Graveside service for Mary Hendrix Johnson, age 93 of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at Remlap Community Cemetery with Dean Bowers officiating; burial at Remlap Community Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Johnson passed away on Thursday, November 27, 2025, at her residence. She was born, April 8, 1932, to Herbert Crump Hendrix and Wilma Gloria Hendrix. There will be a memorial to celebrate her life at a later date.

Glenda Lou Watts, 87

Glenda Lou Hyatt Knight Watts, age 87, of Cullman, Alabama, entered her eternal rest on November 29, 2025, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She was born on January 15, 1938, in Cullman to Shelley and Cordie Hyatt, and from the very beginning her life was shaped by faith, family, and service. Glenda spent part of her childhood at the former Cullman County Jail, where her father served as sheriff and her mother cooked for and cared for the inmates. Those early years—filled with unique stories, community, and responsibility—helped form the compassionate, resilient, and steadfast woman she would become. A lifelong resident of Cullman, Glenda devoted her work to strengthening her community. She served as a Teacher's Aide at East Elementary School and later as the pastor's secretary at East Side Baptist Church, a congregation she loved deeply and where she formed lifelong friendships. She completed her career with the Cullman County Board of Education, faithfully serving as Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools under Jim Boyd, Felton Easterwood, and Jan Farley. Her dedication, warmth, and steady presence touched countless lives. Glenda's life was marked by remarkable strength. A two-time cancer survivor, she also endured the profound losses of her husbands, Obie Knight and Billie Gene Watts, and the heartbreaking passing of her eldest daughter, Sonya Carol (Knight) Hembree, from pancreatic cancer. Through every trial, she leaned on her steadfast faith and a heart that never stopped loving others. An active member and longtime Secretary of East Side Baptist Church, Glenda led Sunday School classes, participated in ministries, and continued attending services—whether in person or online—until she was no longer able. Her church family remained a source of joy, support, and fellowship throughout her life. Glenda was preceded in death by her parents, Shelley, and Cordie Hyatt; her brother, Rayford Hyatt; her husbands, Obie Knight and Billie Gene Watts; her daughter, Sonya; and stepchildren Dale, Dave, Darrel, and Jeff Watts. She is survived by her daughter, Shari (John) Hurt; grandchildren Jason (Jessica) Hurt, Amy (Brent) Smith, and Joseph (Skye) Hurt; great-grandchildren Austin (Caleigh) Hurt, Brinley Carol Hurt, Willa Carol Smith, Parker Hurt, Cooper Hurt, and Olivia Hurt; and great-great-grandchild Ivy Hurt. She is also survived by son-in-law Kerry Hembree, son-in-love Grady Smith, stepchildren Jack (Linda) Watts and Jill (Greg) Prestridge, stepdaughters-in-law Donna Watts and Renee Watts, and several nieces and nephews. The family will receive visitors at East Side Baptist Church from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, with funeral services beginning at 11 a.m. A graveside service will follow at New Hope #2 Baptist Church in Holly Pond. Arrangements are entrusted to Moss Service Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Glenda's memory to East Side Baptist Church. Glenda will be remembered for her kindness, her faith, her strength, and the countless lives she touched through her service and friendship. Her legacy lives on in the hearts of those who loved her and whom she so dearly loved.

Morgan Amber Shirley, 29

Morgan Amber Shirley age 29 of Montevallo, Alabama passed away November 25, 2025. She was born January 10, 1996, in Alabama. Morgan is preceded in death by her mother Jodie Smith; grandfather Bobby McGriff; uncle Anthony McGriff; and son Easton Lee Shirley. She is survived by her husband Austin Shirley; daughters Ashlynn Shirley and Brynlee Shirley; father Shane Smith; brother Colton (Kennedy) Smith; grandmother June McGriff; grandparents Sheila (Steve) Cahela and Vick (Wendy) Smith; nephew Carson Smith; and brother-in-law, Kaleb Sivils. Morgan will be remembered as a loving mother, sister, and daughter. Her two girls were her whole world, and she stayed very close with her family. She loved coaching her daughters' volleyball teams and it was of great importance to her. Morgan was incredibly creative, she enjoyed doing nails/makeup, was a great decorator, and loved music- Alice In Chains was her favorite band. She loved the outdoors (especially the many weekends spent in Guntersville), the beach and the mountains. Morgan was truly a free spirit and was loved by many, and will be missed by all who knew her. A memorial service for Morgan will be held Saturday, December 6, 2025, at 2 p.m. in the Moss Service Funeral Home chapel. The family will receive friends for a visitation from 1 p.m. until the service time at 2 p.m. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Samuel David McCluskey, 67

Graveside service for Samuel David McCluskey, 67, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at Springhill Baptist Cemetery, Friend Jeff Byars will officiate. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. McCluskey passed away November 30, 2025, at Cullman Health & Rehab. He was born March 28, 1958, to A.B. and Willo Dean Tucker McCluskey. He proudly served his community in the Bethsadia Fire Department. He was a member of Springhill Baptist Church and enjoyed working with the youth. He enjoyed fishing, old cars and years ago he did lights and sound for the Grateful Dead Desert shows. He was preceded in death by his parents and his mother and father-in-law, John and Margie Gurganus. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Rose McCluskey; brother-in-law, Philip (Diane) Gurganus; nephew, John David (Becky) Gurganus; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Jewel McCarn Hall, 82

Jewel McCarn Hall, 82, of Cullman passed away November 30, 2025, at her residence. She was born April 19, 1943, to Ray and Geneva Harris McCarn. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to handle the arrangements. Jewel was a member of Seventh Street Baptist Church. She loved to cook, loved gardening and loved her dog, Havannah. She recently won a blue ribbon award in "Just A Pinch" magazine for her recipe, Thanksgiving Cranberry Cream Cheese Salad. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Walter Gene "T.O." Hall; son, Anthony 'Tony' Sanford; brother, Garland McCarn. Survivors include her daughter, Tammy LaShay Edmonds; brother, Chester (Denice) McCarn; sisters, Willodean Bentley, Faye McMillen, Melba Chandler; grandchildren, Erica Gordon, Brett Gordon; special friends, Daniel & Ashley Mosley, Whitney Cook; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

FREE OBITUARY LISTINGS

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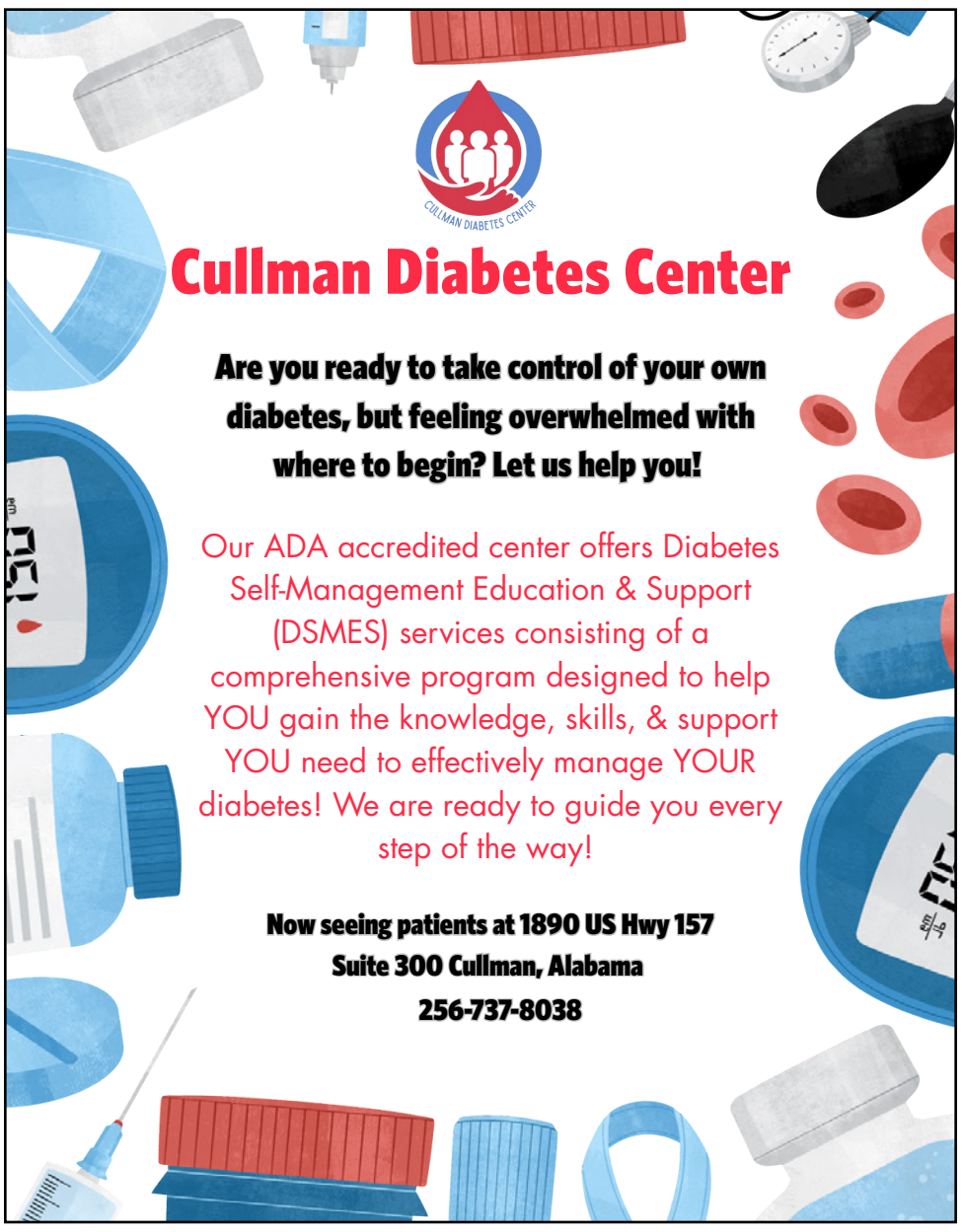
Email: obits@cullmantribune.com

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

Hanceville Funeral Home

100 Michelle Street Northwest, Hanceville, Alabama 35077

(256) 352-3130





THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Campaign (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Schools Foundation (CCSF) has launched its "Paws for the Holidays" year-end giving campaign, inviting the Cullman community to join a season of generosity that directly supports teachers and students throughout Cullman City Schools. The campaign runs from Giving Tuesday, Dec. 2, through Dec. 31, with a goal of raising $3,000 for the Foundation's Classroom Grant Program.

Since 2024, CCSF has awarded nearly $45,000 in classroom grants, providing resources that enhance instruction and elevate student engagement across all five district schools.

Grant-funded initiatives this year include innovative STEM and robotics programming, health and wellness initiatives, visual and performing arts resources, expanded library and literacy materials, and instructional tools that benefit students in grades Pre-K through 12.

Beyond grantmaking, the Foundation hosts several programs and events that enrich the school community.

Every year, CCSF presents the Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Luncheon, honoring outstanding educators and alumni whose achievements exemplify excellence in education and leadership.

The Foundation also sponsors an annual Summer Music Camp each June, in partnership with Heirlooms Fine and Performing Arts and the McCluskey School of Music, offering students hands-on creative experiences and supporting arts education throughout the district.

The 2025 campaign carries additional significance as the Foundation prepares to celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2026.

Since its founding in 1996, the Cullman City Schools Foundation has partnered with families, community leaders, alumni, and local businesses to strengthen academic opportunities and provide sustainable support for students and teachers.

"The holiday season reminds us of the powerful impact community generosity can have on our classrooms," said Tyler Hooper, foundation specialist for the Cullman City Schools Foundation.

"Every contribution to 'Paws for the Holidays' invests directly in the success of our students and empowers educators with the tools they need to deliver exceptional quality instruction."

The mission of the Cullman City Schools Foundation is to inspire and empower every student and educator in Cullman City Schools by building strong community partnerships, securing sustainable resources and championing innovative educational programs that cultivate character, citizenship and scholarship.

One hundred percent of all "Paws for the Holidays" contributions will support the Classroom Grant Program. Donors can learn more and make secure online gifts at www.bearcats.swell.gives.

Grotto (from Front)

visits, Johnny's Bar-B-Q and horse-drawn wagon rides, some of which will be returning this year on the special weekend of Dec. 12–13.

Steele said his goal is to enhance the Grotto's beauty. Given that the site is considered one of the country's most significant works of folk art, the goal is to complement the sculptures rather than overshadow them.

"This isn't just a Christmas event. This is a destination," he said.

"We're trying to make it a work of art by emphasizing the works of art."

The holiday display is created almost entirely by Steele, his wife and their son.

The three spend five to six weeks installing lighting, electrical infrastructure and warm-toned decorations.

New this year are large metal cutouts of trees and deer, backlit along the exit ramp and other previously undecorated areas.

Visitors looking to escape the cold can also enjoy a new art show under the gift shop.

Many guests return for more than the lights. Steele said the Grotto often touches visitors on a personal or spiritual level.

"People have come in with tears," he said. "Whether you're Christian or not, there's something here that brings peace."

Christmas at the Grotto

- 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.
- 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!

The Ave Maria Grotto is located at 1600 St. Bernard Dr. SE in Cullman. Get more information at www.avemariagrotto.com.


ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE