SEIDELMARTINPLASTICSURGERY
AESTHETICS_ONIST
1919 DAHLKE DRIVE, N.E.
CULLMAN, AL 35058
103 1ST AVENUE, N.E.
SUITE 130
CULLMAN, AL 35055
SEIDEL + MARTIN PLASTIC SURGERY
256-739-9993
WWW.SEIDELMARTINPLASTICSURGERY.COM
SEIDEL+MARTIN AESTHETICS on 1st

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 152 • 50¢ PER COPY | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 157

WORKING FOR YOU!



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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES
Anthony Bruce Wise, Mary Jo Gerstman, Carolyn Marie Tarvin, Jane Ballard Mize, Joyce O'Brien, Wyoma Dean Folds, Johnny Ray Givens, Terrie J. Lippeatt, Donald Fredrick Collins, Darrell Johns
» PAGE 8

WEATHER
73 60
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
MOSTLY CLOUDY

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3

Games
» PAGE 7



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

– SPORTS –

Bailey Tetro back after ACL tear

» PAGE 4

Wallace State faculty member killed in house fire

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

DECATUR, Ala. — A Wallace State Community College faculty member was killed in a house fire in the early morning hours of Friday, Dec. 26, 2025.

According the reporting from WHNT News 19, Morgan County Coroner Jeff Chunn identified the victim as Susan Beck, 62, of Decatur.

WHNT said Morgan County 911 dispatched Decatur Fire & Rescue to a house fire in the 1200 block of Seton Avenue Southeast around 1:44 a.m.

"Upon arrival, firefighters noticed a single-family home that was in flames. After immediately searching the home, crews received information in-

» PAGE 3



WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Susan Beck

KNIGHT-FREE INSURANCE AGENCY
Your agents. Your neighbors. Your friends. For three generations.



80 YEARS
80 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1943-2023
Thank you, Cullman, for the best 80 years of our lives.

CHS cheer teams celebrate championship season, set sights on national competition



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS
Cullman High School Cheer will compete against some of the nation's top programs at the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship in late January.

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman High School Junior Varsity and Varsity cheer programs, said the school system, "have completed an extraordinary season marked by hard work, growth, and remarkable achievements across all four teams: JV and Varsity Traditional and JV and Varsity Gameday. Throughout the year, Cullman Cheer has consistently demonstrated excellence, discipline and pride while representing their school and community at the highest levels."

At the AHSAA State Championship, the program captured two state titles. Varsity Traditional earned the title of 6A State Champions, while JV Gameday also claimed the 6A State Championship.

The season began at the Space Center Regional Competition, where all four teams set a strong tone early. Varsity Traditional earned second place, Varsity Gameday finished third, JV Traditional placed second and JV Gameday also brought home third place — an impressive start for the entire program.

Momentum continued at the North Super Regional Competition, where Varsity Traditional claimed the title of 6A Super Regional Champions. Varsity Gameday finished second, JV Traditional earned second place and JV Gameday placed third.

At the Magic City Regional, Cullman Cheer delivered a defining moment of the season with a clean sweep. All four teams placed first in their respective divisions.

The season concluded its regional schedule at the Smoky Mountain Regional Competition with another standout performance. Varsity Traditional, Varsity Gameday and JV Traditional all finished first, while JV Gameday earned a strong second-place finish.

"This season has been extraordinary, and each athlete has played an important part in building these accomplishments," Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said.

"We are proud of their commitment, their drive, and the way they represent Cullman Cheer and our school system."

With regional and state success behind them, one major goal remains. Cullman High School Cheer will compete against some of the nation's top programs at the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship in late January. For more than 40 years, this event has been the culmination of the cheer season nationwide and is widely regarded as the most prestigious high school cheerleading championship in the country.

The competition takes place at the Walt Disney World Resort, offering teams the opportunity to celebrate excellence on a national stage.

Kallhoff also expressed appreciation for the coaching staff, adding:

"On behalf of the school administration and Board of Education, we are grateful to the coaches who work with our athletes before and after school — beginning with tryouts in late March and continuing all the way through nationals in late January. Thank you, coaches, for pushing our student-athletes hard and loving them just as much."

Man from Arab dies after Christmas Eve ATV crash in Cullman County

» PAGE 2

Spanish classes coming to Shirley Burden Public Library this winter



SHIRLEY BURDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Spanish classes will be offered this winter at the Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville. The classes will be held on Tuesdays from 11 a.m.-noon, with sessions scheduled for Jan. 6, Jan. 20, Feb. 3 and Feb. 17.

» PAGE 5

ACES: Upcycling after the holiday season

» PAGE 5

PET OF THE WEEK
Bowen is ready to be your constant companion



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
Bowen

» PAGE 3



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Dec. 26

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Dec. 26, 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

Dec. 17

- theft of property-4th degree; Monograms Plus; general merchandise; $162; Main Ave. NE

Dec. 18

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $157; Hwy. 157

Dec. 19

- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '22 Chev. Express Van; $5,000; Elizabeth St. NE

Dec. 20

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; Christmas tree; $93; Olive St. SW

Dec. 22

- leaving the scene of an accident; person; 2nd Ave. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $66; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $453; Olive St. SW

Dec. 23

- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash; $900,000
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '25 GMC Yukon; $3,000; 2nd Ave. SW

Dec. 25

- harassment; person; Denson Ave. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree – criminal mischief-2nd degree; person; damage to '99 GMC; $1,300; Dripping Springs Rd. NW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; CR 1400

ARRESTS

Dec. 22-25

Maddox, Jr., James D.; 45

- FTA – driving while revoked (2 counts)
- FTA – switched tag

Tyler, Bethany J.; 35

- theft of property-4th degree

Brewer, Shantel R.; 32

- theft of property-4th degree

Brewer, Cody A.; 32

- theft of property-4th degree

Pitt, Jr., Mark C.; 41

- FTA – driving while suspended (2 counts)

White, Roger A.; 47

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

Martinez, Juan M.; 40

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – attempt to elude

Coon, Tyre J.; 34

- obstructing governmental operations

Hunkapiller, Krystal G.; 47

- theft of property-4th degree

Sanderson, Timothy M.; 37

- theft of property-4th degree

Campbell, Amy R.; 41

- DUI

Florence, Steven S.; 49

- public intoxication

Cobb, Kevin D.; 49

- domestic violence-3rd degree
- violation of domestic violence protection order

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

NOW HIRING TIRE TECHS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY

COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221

Crash (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A man from Arab was killed in a single-vehicle crash involving an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) that occurred at approximately 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24. Alabama State Troopers identified the victim as Jeremiah R. Sivley, 24.

Troopers said Sivley was critically injured when the 2025 Yamaha ATV he was operating overturned in the roadway.

He was transported to Marshall North Hospital for treatment where he later succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased. Troopers said Sivley was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

The crash occurred on County Road 1850 near County Road 1851, approximately 2 miles south of Arab, in Cullman County.

Nothing further is available as Troopers with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) Highway Patrol Division continue to investigate.

LEGALS

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicle, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80:
VIN#1GYRK63N15R121448 2005 Black Cadi Escalade
If not claimed, this vehicle will be sold for towing, repair and work done. Sale date is Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. Call Vance Johnson at 256-339-5752

Legal Notice

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
GERALDINE ROBERTSON *
CORNELIUS SWEATMON, * **CASE NO.: PC2023-374**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to DAVID CHRISTOPHER CORNELIUS, as Executor of the Estate of GERALDINE ROBERTSON CORNELIUS SWEATMON, deceased, on the 15th day of May 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.

DAVID CHRISTOPHER CORNELIUS
Executor

David Lee Jones
Attorney for Executor
PO Box 940
Guntersville, AL 35976

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

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

DONE this 15th day of May, 2025.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

ROBERT DALE BLACK, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2025-403

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF ROBERT DALE BLACK, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Amy Leanne Jarrett on the 17th day of December, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Amy Leanne Jarrett, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicles, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80.

1995 Chevrolet Corvette, blue, VIN#1G1YY22P1S5112953

This vehicle will be sold to pay storage and or repair fees at Williams Auto Repair, 450 County Road 1603, Cullman, Alabama 35058, on Monday, January 26, 2026, at 8:00 a.m.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

JOYCE ELIZABETH MOORE, DECEASED CASE NO PC 2025-422

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF JOYCE ELIZABETH MOORE, DECEASED

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Schella M Cross on the 11th day of December, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred

Schella M Cross, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*

Please publish the above notice three successive weeks in said newspaper

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C Smith
Smith and Smith, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioner
P O Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone (256) 734-4721
Fax (256) 734-4774
e-mail steve@smithandsmithllp com

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 James Beckman, an unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns dated February 19, 2015; said mortgage being recorded on March 9, 2015 in Deed Book 1755, Page 483 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. by assignment recorded in Deed Book 339, Page 901 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc., 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 January 29, 2026 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Land Situated in the Town of Hanceville in the County of Cullman in the State of AL. The east half of lots No. 20 and 21 in Comb's Third Addition to the Town of Hanceville, Alabama, as shown by plat thereof recorded in the Office of the Probate Judge of Cullman County, Alabama. Said east half of lots 20 and 21 being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northeast corner of said lot 21 and go South along East line of lot 21 and lot 20 a distance of 200 feet to Southeast corner of lot 20; Then go West along South line of lot 20 a distance of 100 feet; Thence go at right angles North 200 feet to South edge of Estelle Street; Thence go East a distance of 100 feet along the South edge of Estelle Street to the point of beginning.

Said property is commonly known as **1003 Stadium St Se, Hanceville, AL 35077**.

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.

December 10, 2025

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.

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC.
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. 22-02545AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

22-02545AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
WANDA DENISE TUCKER, * **CASE NO PC 2025-404**
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to Sarah Elizabeth Tucker. Personal Representative, on the 10th day of December, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

To The Editor and Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Kalif R Green, Esq
Kalif R Green, Attorney at Law, LLC
107 Bangor Ave NE
Hanceville, AL 35077
(256) 735-6040
kalifrgreen@gmail com

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
PEGGY SWANN ANDERS, * **CASE NO.: PC2025-140**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Robert Kyle Anders, as Personal Representative of the Estate of PEGGY SWANN ANDERS, deceased, on the 18th day of December 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.

Robert Kyle Anders
Personal Representative

Charles L. Anderson, Esq.
Anderson, Williams & Farrow, LLC
7515 Halcyon Pointe Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117

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

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

DONE this 18th day of December, 2025.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
MARGARET S. BARRON, * CASE NO. PC 2025 - 447
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Brooks Sutliff Barron as Personal Representative of the Estate of Margaret S. Barron, deceased, on the 19th day of December, 2025, all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Brooks Sutliff Barron
Personal Representative

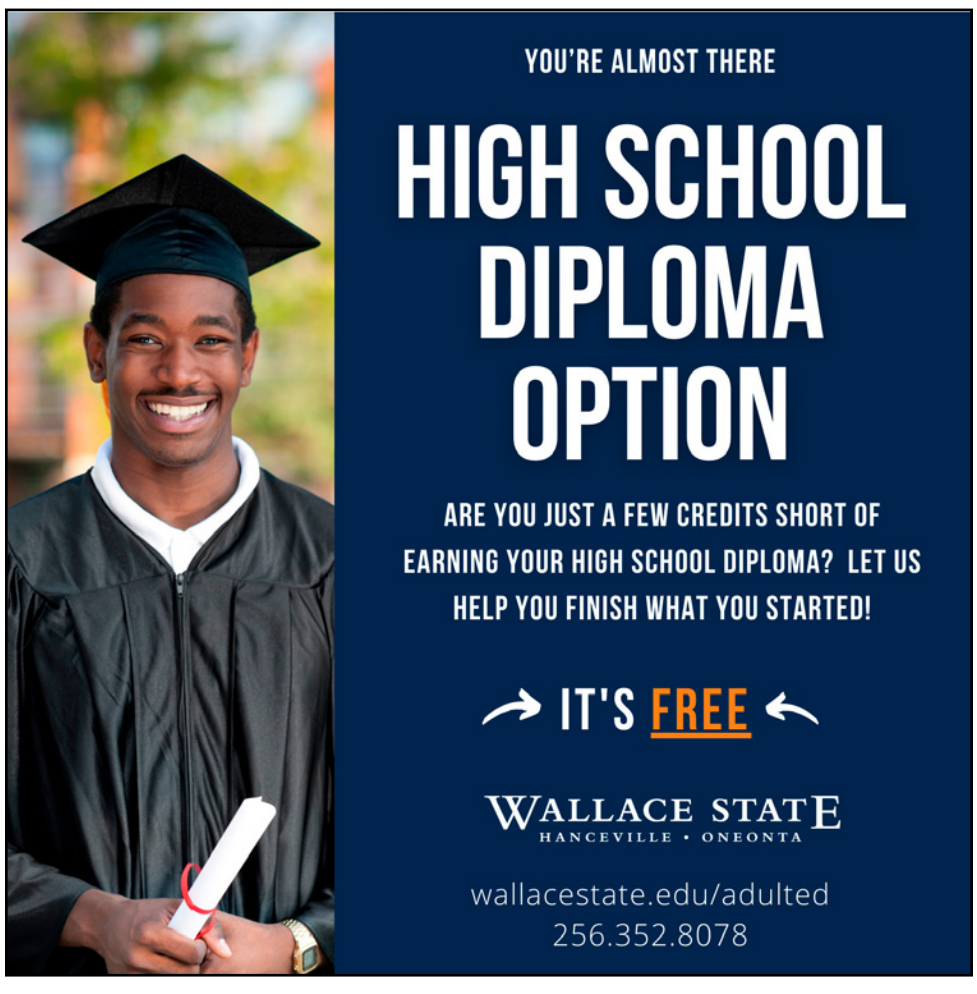
Shay Persall
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 Seventh Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 841-7800

Attorney for Personal Representative

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, PROBATE JUDGE





Fire (from Front)

dicating that someone may still have been inside the home during the fire," it reported.

"According to Decatur Fire & Rescue, one person was found during search and rescue efforts and was pronounced dead at the scene as a result of injuries sustained in the fire."

Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics confirmed Beck was a faculty member, saying in a statement, "We are deeply saddened by the loss of Susan Beck, a longtime distinguished faculty member and cherished member of our Wallace State family.

"She was a devoted educator who truly cared for her students and colleagues, and she leaves a lasting legacy at our college. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time."

WHNT said fire investigators with Decatur Fire & Rescue, along with the Alabama State Fire Marshal's Office, responded to the scene and have begun an active investigation to determine the cause of the fire.

Reactions poured in online on The Cullman Tribune's Facebook page.

Deb Stanulevich wrote, "She was one of the best teacher you could have ever have.

"She cared for her students and helped them being ready for a 4 year university. She will be missed so much."

"I hate this so much. I loved having her as a teacher. Very attentive, so caring to all of her students. Praying for the family!" posted Veronica LaShay Dingler.

JR Bowling, a candidate for Alabama Senate, wrote, "This is heartbreaking news I loved Ms Beck she was always the best.... Prayers for the family."

"So sad. Susan was such a sweet person, I enjoyed working with her as a secretary for the HUS program at WSCC. Praying for her family," said Shirley Helms Moore.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

NOTICE FROM CULLMAN CARING FOR KIDS
The new "Spirit of Christmas" book is available for a $20 donation to Cullman Caring for Kids. This is the newest "Chicken Soup for the Soul" book with a story by local writer Tanya Shearer. They make great Christmas gifts! Your donation will also help provide meals for those in need in our community. Contact Cullman Caring for Kids at 256-739-1111 or Tanya Shearer for delivery.

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
• Sunday, Dec. 28 – 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.
• Monday, Dec. 29 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
• Wednesday, Dec. 31 – 6:30 p.m. Candlelight service. Join us as we welcome the new year in prayer, worship and unity. Invite someone to come with you and share in this special time.

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, 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.

23rd Annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display at Sportsman Lake Park
Dec. 27-28, 5-9 p.m. Admission is $10 per car and $20 per bus. Enjoy a drive-through Christmas light display.

Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District Quarterly Board Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center, 501 Fourth St. SW in Cullman.

Cullman Area Chamber Foundation Mardi Gras Parade & Gumbo Cook-Off
Saturday, Feb. 14, at 1 p.m. in the Art District (Fourth Street Southwest and Cotton Creek area). This family friendly event will feature a colorful Mardi Gras parade, followed by a gumbo cook-off showcasing teams competing for best gumbo and community pride. Attendees can enjoy delicious gumbo tastings, festive décor, live music and the vibrant energy of Mardi Gras right here in Cullman! Grab your beads, bring your friends and family and join us in the Art District.

Bowen (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Bowen is a domestic longhair cat, approximately 1 year old, and the kind of companion who settles into your life as easily as he settles into your arms or lap. He's The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

Calm, affectionate and deeply people focused, Bowen always wants to know what you're doing and is happiest when he's close by.

Whether he's curling up for a quiet moment, watching the room from a cat tower or interacting gently with fellow felines, Bowen brings an easygoing presence wherever he goes.

His temperament makes him an ideal companion, therapy or reading cat, the kind who offers comfort without demanding it and companionship without noise. He is attentive, affectionate and content simply being near the people he trusts.

"I just love this guy, a real keeper," his caregiver shared.

Bowen's adoption fee is $100, which covers his neuter procedure, age-appropriate vaccinations, microchipping and a basic health check.

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.

For those looking for a calm, devoted feline friend with a big heart and a gentle spirit, Bowen is ready and waiting.

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



The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication
Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: office@cullmantribune.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

CULLMAN.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

Noah Galilee - Publisher
Dustin Isom - Associate Publisher
W.C. Mann - Reporter
Gauge Day - Reporter
Anabelle Howze - Reporter
Nick Griffin - Varsity Sports Editor
SammyConfer-Youth/JVSportsEditor
Bill Piper - Photojournalist
Rhonda Richie - Newsroom Manager
Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 27, 2025

Get bitter or get better

After an ACL injury derailed her freshman season, Wallace State's Bailey Tetro had to choose

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — If you look up on the wall of Good Hope high school's basketball arena, you'll see the name Bailey Tetro. The banner immortalized her achievement of leading the 4A Lady Raiders to a 33-2 record and the first state championship in school history in 2023-24. A 17-point, six-rebound, five-assist and seven-steal performance in the title game vs. T.R. Miller won her the tournament's MVP award to close out a storied high school career.

At the next level, she chose to stay close to home, committing to Hanceville's Wallace State alongside her twin sister, Heather.

The Lady Lions had lost in the district finals the previous two seasons, and had just hired up-and-coming head coach Joseph Simmons to get them over the hump.

Ahead of schedule, Tetro had the starting point guard spot secured as the 2024-25 season drew near. In the team's final preseason scrimmage, just days before what would be her collegiate debut last October, she picked up a dribble and drove to the basket. It was a routine layup attempt, something she'd done hundreds of times, but her knee hyperextended as she landed.

It was painful, but she walked off the court under her own power and sat the rest of the game. Soon after, an MRI told her she would miss the entirety of her freshman season with a torn ACL.

She summed it up into one word, "heartbroken," but went on to note how grateful and lucky she was to land with such a great surgeon and physical therapist after the fact. After a swift and successful surgery last November by Cullman's David Dueland, she was right back with the team.

"I only missed two games, the first two of last season since they were away games and I was having surgery.

"I was able to help out, pass out water, helping any way that I could, and that really helped me, because I love basketball and it would've been tough to go through it without the game. I'm super grateful they let me help out and stay a part of everything," Tetro said.

One quick conversation with her, and you'll feel that love for basketball and every bit of the grind that comes with it. It made recovery an even taller task than it would be for some. With a grin, she detailed how difficult it was to keep her away from the game while she was recovering from surgery.

"I probably did a little more than I should have. I had to remind myself, especially when I couldn't walk, I gotta take it easy, all the other stuff will come. I was trying to dribble on the sidelines, get up shots, even during practice. Me and my sister would come back later in the day and I'd sit in a chair and just do form shots at the goal, just trying to work on things that I could do to get better. Even at home I was using tennis balls to dribble around, working on my form without a goal, just doing anything that I could," she said.

While she was clawing to get back, the Lady Lions were thriving on the court. Simmons' first season at the helm saw Wallace State go 26-4 in the regular season, winning the Alabama Community College Conference for the first time in 13 years and contending for the NJCAA South District championship.

They'd do just that, defeating Shelton State to advance to the NJCAA D1 Women's Basketball Championship tournament in Wyoming last March.

The Lady Lions would go on to fall to Northwest Florida State in the second round, ending a historic season.

"It was tough, I was super proud of them, but especially that last game you want to be in there helping. It sucked to see my teammates losing and there's nothing you can do about it. I'm not sure how much help I would've been, but I would've done anything to just get to be out there in that moment," Tetro said.

It was also on that playoff run where Tetro found words she now lives by. While on the treadmill at the team's hotel, she watched an interview featuring the late priest Richard Wurmbrand that stuck out to her.

"He said that same thing, when you're going through a difficult time you make that choice, you can either get bitter or get better. And I made the choice that getting better was what I wanted to do. So that's what I tried to do, I showed up at therapy and Dr. Courtney Green pushed me, she had me lifting weights, getting stronger," she said.

Just six months after the devastating injury, Tetro was medically cleared to participate in basketball activities in May 2025. After spending the offseason in the gym and in therapy, she said didn't just get back to her old self, but even better.

It's visible on the court, especially in Simmons' hard press defensive system. With a full-leg brace on, Tetro bounces around from player to player, frustrating ball handlers with active hands and sometimes even yelling at them when shooting or passing.

"Me and my sister have always been firecrackers, all over the court trying to be everywhere, you know what I mean? Playing hard defense allows me to do that, it's something we harp on with this team, we take a lot of pride in it. It's something I had to buy into at first but it's helped me become a much better player," Tetro said on the Lady Lions' defense.

Her presence on the perimeter has been a driving factor for Wallace State's defense ranking first in the NJCAA in points allowed, only allowing opponents 36.9 points per game.

On offense, Tetro has shown signs of greatness, with a 28-point performance including eight three-pointers against Chattanooga State earlier this month.

While her shooting is a strength, where Tetro really has a chance to shine is inside the arc. Flashy behind-the-back passes pop alongside shifty, acrobatic layups.

On Dec. 19, she showed off some of those moves in a 13 point performance in the Lions' 97-32 win over Pellissippi State where she only played in the first half.

On if there's jitters doing layups now, she said "I did have some, this game is probably the most I've done the sort of layups I used to. You just have to trust the brace, trust your surgery. For the most part I've felt really good, like I said Courtney Green did a great job with my therapy and working with her has really helped me trust my movements again."

So far this season, 12-0 and 13th-ranked Wallace State is well on its way to returning to the postseason and giving Tetro a chance to win a collegiate title alongside her sister. On her return, her head coach said, "She exemplifies the kind of player we want in this program, hard work and toughness- toughness wins more times than not."



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Wallace State's Bailey Tetro shooting over a Pellissippi State defender

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE
HAPPENING JAN 31
WILDWATER
YOUTH LEAGUE BASEBALL
REGISTER BY FEB 2
OMNISPORTS DISTRICT
YOUTH LEAGUE SOFTBALL
REGISTER BY FEB 2
OMNISPORTS DISTRICT
CULLMAN RECREATION .ORG

WENDY'S
WENDY'S HEALTH AND NUTRITION
The face and name you've grown to trust
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED
LET WENDY'S 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE HELP YOU FIND THE RIGHT SUPPLEMENTS FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
Mon-Fri 9-5:30 | Sat 9-1 | Closed Sunday
1601 A 1st Ave SW Cullman | 256-739-2110

Over 150 Wigs In Stock!
Options
Chemo Caps
Wigs & More!
Judy Watts Grissom
options5993@gmail.com
256-347-5993
2201 2nd Ave NW
Cullman, AL 35058
BBB A+ rating
TUESDAY-FRIDAY 9:30 A.M. - 4 P.M.
SATURDAY 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Spanish classes coming to Shirley Burden Public Library this winter

Staff Reports
Contributor

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Spanish classes will be offered this winter at the Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville. The classes will be held on Tuesdays from 11 a.m.-noon, with sessions scheduled for Jan. 6, Jan. 20, Feb. 3 and Feb. 17.

Alejandra Pena, who has more than 16 years of experience teaching Spanish and working with learners across multiple age groups, will lead the sessions.

Library officials said the program is part of the library's ongoing efforts to provide accessible learning opportunities in a welcoming, small-town environment that encourages community engagement and lifelong learning.

The classes are open to the public. Registration is required and can be completed by calling the library at 256-352-0685.

The Shirley Burden Public Library is located at 201 Commercial St. NW in Hanceville.



SHIRLEY BURDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Spanish classes will be offered this winter at the Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville. The classes will be held on Tuesdays from 11 a.m.-noon, with sessions scheduled for Jan. 6, Jan. 20, Feb. 3 and Feb. 17. »

Upcycling (from Front)

Karnita Garner and Elizabeth Phillips

Recycling is a sustainable, eco-friendly practice that benefits individuals, families, businesses and communities. By extending the life and usability of materials such as plastic, paper, metal, glass and electronics, we conserve natural resources, reduce pollution, and lower carbon emissions. Modern recycling centers and recurring collection events now play an even greater role in turning used products into new ones, saving energy, and reducing economic costs. Just as significantly, recycling decreases the volume of solid waste destined for landfills, helping safeguard ecosystems and the planet's most precious resources for future generations.

What is upcycling?

Upcycling is a spin off of recycling and involves imaginative, functional and eco friendly ways of repurposing materials into usable products.

By eliminating the need to produce new or raw materials, it offers everyone a powerful way to reduce their ecological footprint and protect the planet.

Countless materials can be reused for other purposes, and most recycled items can be upcycled into practical or beautiful creations.

Newspapers and magazines, for example, can be turned into arts and crafts projects, while glass and plastic containers can be repurposed as organizers for household items or children's toys.

Ultimately, upcycling shows how creativity can transform everyday trash into something functional, decorative and sustainable.

Get started with books

Countless authors have shared tips on upcycling and provided creative ideas to reuse eco-friendly everyday items. Books and other resources will help you discover that upcycling can be more valuable than you think, especially for the planet.

Check out what's online

Websites and social media pages are full of creative ideas for reusing recyclable materials. Online marketplaces highlight the popularity of upcycling.

For example, eBay lists tens of thousands of resources, from antique quilts to worn blue jeans; Amazon offers thousands of guides and products on the subject; and Etsy showcases thousands of uniquely upcycled or handcrafted items.

Beyond the joy of transforming discarded materials into something useful, many crafters earn impressive prices for their designs, while entrepreneurial upcyclers refashion vintage items into modern creations. The economic potential of upcycling is clear.

Just like recycling, virtually any material can be imaginatively repurposed rather than thrown away.

As part of your New Year's resolution, consider adopting a fresh approach to decluttering your home.

Spend a few minutes thinking "outside the box" and reimagine the possibilities for reducing your ecological footprint. Encourage your children and family members to join in.

With a bit of imagination, you may be surprised at the beauty hidden in what once seemed like rubbish.

Remember, giving new purpose to an item doesn't require special skills. It only requires creativity, resourcefulness and a commitment to living more sustainably.

Tips to get started

- Save cardboard boxes and reuse them as gift boxes.
- Repurpose brown paper bags as eco friendly gift wrap.
- Turn leftover trinkets into holiday decorations for next year.
- Give tissue and wrapping paper a second life.
- Transform old holiday cards into gift tags for new presents.
- Reuse holiday bags and bows instead of buying new ones.
- Donate old holiday cards to youth and senior art programs.
- Recycle your Christmas tree by providing habitat for birds or mulching plants during the winter.
- Repurpose glass jars from holiday foods into storage containers or candle holders.
- Turn broken string lights into decorative garlands or craft projects.
- Upcycle cookie tins into sewing kits, craft supply storage, or planters.
- Convert old sweaters into cozy pillow covers or mittens.
- Save ribbons for scrapbooking or DIY crafts throughout the year.

Give Planet Earth a helping hand and start upcycling today.

More information

For more information on recycling or other environmental topics, contact Extension Environmental Specialist Karnita Garner or visit www.aces.edu.

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA
SHOP LOCAL



COUNCILMAN - Paul Schaffer | COUNCILMAN - Jason Willoughby | PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE - David Moss, Jr. | MAYOR - Woody Jacobs | PRESIDENT - Kim Hall | COUNCILMAN - Chuck Shikle

WE NOW HAVE APPLES!
Steele Orchard
Mon-Fri 9-5 | Sat 9-4
1695 County Rd 1141
Cullman, AL 35057
256-734-5249

Mon-Thurs: 11 AM-9 PM | Fri-Sat: 11 AM-10 PM | Sun: 11 AM-4 PM



ADAPRIS PIZZA BUFFET
Best Pizza in Town



1842 Patriot Drive SW, Cullman
256-747-5005 | AdaprisPizza.com

BRANCH BOOKS HARTSELLE
BRANCH BOOKS 2 CULLMAN
NEW AND USED BOOKS, DVDS, CDS, ETC.

BRANCH BOOKS 2
CULLMAN
256-754-5111
2308 PEAR DRIVE NW SUITE E
CULLMAN, AL

BRANCH BOOKS
HARTSELLE
256-747-5331
701H NANCE FORD ROAD
HARTSELLE, AL

NOW WITH TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU BETTER!

FREE ESTIMATES
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
CYPRESS
BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
(256)633-7140
ROOFING & EXTERIORS
GUTTERS WINDOWS
SIDING REMODELS
CUSTOM HOMES MORE
CYPRESSROOFINGEXTERIORS.COM
PROUDLY SERVING NORTH AND CENTRAL ALABAMA



GOLDEN TOUCH
THE ONYX COLLECTION
LUXURY SHOWERS
Michael Golden
OWNER
SCAN TO EMAIL MICHAEL



216 2nd Ave SE, Cullman | 256-213-1852 | Visit Our Showroom Today

FEDERER FERTILIZER
GARDEN SEED PEST CONTROL
GRASS SEED WHEAT STRAW
FERTILIZER INSECTICIDES
PINE STRAW HERBICIDES
LAWN PRE-EMERGENT CHEMICALS
2471 COUNTY RD. 222 CULLMAN | 256-734-1226
OPEN MON-FRI 7:30- 5:00 SAT 7:30-12:00

OP-ED

Tips for a calm pregnancy

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

I went into my pregnancy journey knowing the absolute basics. I'd read all the highly praised books and even listened to a few parental guidance podcasts. Once you're in it for yourself those books are rather arbitrary. They can aid in giving you direction, but it's all up to you to carry it out.

Before I go into the things that helped me sleep at night, literally, I want to stress that every pregnancy is different. My experience is not yours and everyone will have various symptoms and hardships. Some may even have no difficulties, but it's very important that you advocate for yourself and speak to your medical provider regarding any concerns.

Pregnancy self-care

The first trimester hibernation really sets up the rest of the pregnancy for you. Do what your body needs and rest! Slow down and ensure you're well rested, hydrated and are eating – well... as much as you can keep down. Though when it comes to resting be sure to find a good balance. You know your body so use your best judgement given your unique circumstances, but don't become a perpetual couch potato. You still have physical needs that need to be met and you also need to know when your previous daily physical activity should be toned down to keep the baby safe.

With that being said, in order to keep the baby safe you also have to show up for yourself. Keep an eye on your mental health as this is, for some, the most difficult stage of pregnancy. Have a few nights to sit and focus on your hobbies and just existing. Do the things that help ground you and ease any mental and emotional tension.

Appointments

In preparing for doctors' visits I suggest looking at a breakdown of prenatal appointment schedules. Not every appointment is going to include an ultrasound and that can be nerve racking. If this is something that will make you anxious, discuss it with your provider, but also know that your baby's heartbeat is checked even when you don't get the ultrasound. It's best to vocalize anything that could cause you stress. Ask all the questions you need and know that it isn't silly and you will not be judged for it.

Speaking of judging, that brings me to my next point. If you have a provider who doesn't meet your needs and you do not feel safe sharing this experience with them – shop around. It's better to get this out of the way early than to wait until your third trimester and cause yourself more harm than good making the switch.

Bills

Money going into prenatal care and baby preparation in general is going to be a big stressor. Do your research on what your insurance covers and what you will be paying for visits. It's best to have an idea beforehand than to be bombarded every time you get a medical bill. Walking to the mailbox doesn't have to become dreadful.

Nutrition

During any stage of pregnancy you need to watch what you eat and be mindful of what you're putting in your body. The first trimester is known for its uphill battles with nausea, food sensitivity and aversions. Do your best to hydrate and eat healthy, balanced meals.

I was given a 40-ounce tumbler during my first trimester and made it my mission to drink two of those a day and sometimes more to make sure I was hydrated. Not only is this important for your health, but also for the baby's. If you dislike the taste of water, get some flavor additives or, ideally, electrolyte drink enhancers.

Keep snacks on you, too! My go-to snacks that I kept in my purse throughout the workday were high-protein beef sticks and granola bars. Though any quick and easy snack that will keep you from flipping tables and quitting your job will do! Pregnancy hunger is no joke.

Hygiene

We've made it this far, don't let me lose you now. Most people report feeling less clean once they become pregnant. Your body is going through a lot hormonally and you may have some changes to get used to. Here are the things I got to ease my mind from thinking I smelled as if I'd worked a shift at Arby's.

- **Different deodorant:** I have always used men's deodorant because it's stronger, but decided to get a different scent. Since I had become too accustomed with my previous deodorant, the upgrade made it easier to notice the scent change and thus helped my brain recognize that I did not stink.

- **Skincare:** I used skin-firming lotion to prevent stretch marks as much as I could, as well as a citrus scented body oil. Not only did these ease my hygienic worries, but also applying it daily helped my skin more than I imagined.

I also purchased my usual facial skincare products and pimple patches. During the first trimester my skin took a turn for the worse but quickly settled with a few helpful products.

- **Bathroom care:** As soon as I found out I was pregnant I purchased Goodwipes botanical bliss scent and Honey Pot Cooling Herbal Infusion Pads.

The Goodwipes are flushable and also come in scents like cocoa butter and rose water. If you're pregnant in the summer, which in Alabama is basically year-round, get the wipes. Even if you aren't, a little extra cleanup makes you feel better and will reduce the risk of infection.

Honey Pot Cooling Herbal Infusion Pads do exactly what the name says. They have a cooling sensation that makes you feel very refreshed, but if you go into it not knowing they do that – you feel like you have fire crotch. I was warned beforehand so I sampled my first pad in the safety of my home and knew what to expect.

- **Oral hygiene:** I wanted to stay on top of my oral upkeep so I purchased the Terra & Co. Gentle Green Oil Pulling toothpaste and REGROW Remineralizing Tooth Powder. I noticed improvement to my teeth using these products and will continue to use them postpartum.

Gender reveal/baby shower/maternity photos

Overall when it comes to reveals, showers and anything keepsake just be sure to do what you want. This is your pregnancy and you call the shots! If you prefer not to have a reveal, shower or party that is your right not to do so. Speak up for yourself and make sure to surround yourself with the people who support your decisions.

- **Baby shower:** When it comes to baby showers I highly recommend adding in diapers and wipes as a gift suggestion. You will need a lot of them.

Splurging

Money? You're about to spend a lot of it and it's entirely worth it. Though be sure to know what things are appropriate to buy and what can wait.

- **Maternity clothes:** Unless you've been blessed by God himself, you will need maternity clothes! I put off buying maternity clothes until my last trimester because I refused to pay what most places charged for anything maternity.

I tried to browse local thrift stores for maternity pants but could not find my size. I ended up buying a clearance pair online and several pairs of office casual yoga pants that could easily double as maternity.

- **Nursery items:** As you comb all of the lists and suggestions for must-have baby gear, be sure to read the bad reviews as well as the good ones. What one person claims is perfect about the product, another may dislike for a reason that you may not be fond of either. A lot of these items are marketed to loop you in and convince you that you need it.

That being said, there's nothing wrong with being safer than sorry! If you want to overprepare, I highly support you. There are plenty of local individuals you could give those items to who will appreciate it.

Miscellaneous

There are a few pregnancy symptoms that no one told me about. It took late-night Google searches to make sure I wasn't going insane or experiencing symptoms not related to pregnancy.

- **Restless legs:** They tell you to sleep before the baby arrives but don't tell you about the restless legs. If you've ever had your legs jump while you're trying to fall asleep, that's what this is like. Except it can go on for extended periods of time.

Do yourself a favor and get an acupuncture mat to walk on. This helped me more than massages and soaking my feet in hot water and helped me to go back to sleep faster.

- **Back pain:** Do yourself a favor and get a massage gun. Not only does it help with the excruciating back pain, but also with achy feet and restless leg issues previously mentioned. Since you're limited to side sleeping, the increasing weight from a growing baby will cause discomfort.

- **Nasal rinse:** Sinus congestion was the absolute worst experience for me in my second trimester. Some doctors may recommend medications to ease discomfort, but I didn't want to risk it. Usually my nasal rinse and a warm rag on my sinuses after saved me and made grocery time a lot quicker.

Postpartum care

It's important to talk about birth plans here. No matter what your birth plan is, prepare for your worst-case scenario too. Know the healing process for all of the above and buy the necessary items to accommodate for your postpartum recovery. If things don't go as planned, have a Walmart pick-up ready when you're discharged from the hospital with the things you need.

Things I can without a doubt recommend...

- **Adult diapers:** Yes, I know. Not ideal, but they're so worth it. No matter what method of delivery you have, you'll bleed. Get the diapers and don't be ashamed. You have to change another human's diaper and discard it; make it easier on yourself and do the same.

- **Heating pad/some sort of warm compress:** Your whole body is adjusting back to normal. Your organs and your uterus are going back to their usual places and size. It isn't the most comfortable, and a warm compress will help.

- **Waist trainer:** I have noticed great improvement and a rapid decrease in abdominal pain since I started wearing my waist trainer in intervals of 30 minutes to an hour throughout the day. Of course, speak with your provider about this beforehand.

- **Snacks:** Have multiple high-protein snacks and shakes ready to be consumed. You need to regain strength and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Sitting down for a full meal may be a lot, and multiple small meals and snacks throughout the day can be a better fit for you. A lot of the focus is on the baby right now but be sure to keep yourself and your health prioritized, too.

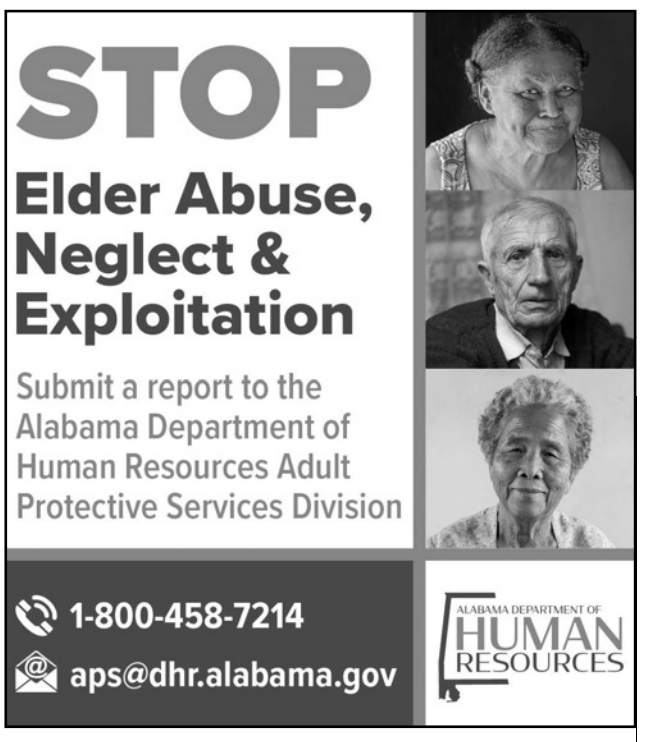
- **Compression socks:** Your body is going back to normal and that extra fluid takes time to leave. Compression socks will help reduce swelling and promote blood flow.

If you have any tips, feel free to share! I hope these help you to have a calm and manageable pregnancy

Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!
Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds
JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!
We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!
Free Phone Consultation
Call 1-256-850-0527
www.JSEAL.com









VIRGIL B. FOWLER
Real Estate and Insurance
AGENCY
Quality Since 1935
734-3821
vbfowlerinsurance.com
Successors to
WILLIAM RICHARD & SON INSURANCE
" Established 1885 "
Virgil B. Fowler 1895-1978 - Virgil B. Fowler Jr. 1937-2019 - Dorothy S. Fowler - Jason S. Fowler

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

The real Christmas story

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



Once upon a time, long, long ago, there lived a young lady named Mary. Mary was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. Before they were wed, and while she was still a virgin, Mary was found to be with child. God sent an angel named Gabriel to explain to Mary what was happening. Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will conceive and bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus."

Joseph, being a just man, and not wanting to make Mary a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Now it came to pass in those days, that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered to pay taxes. Everyone went to the city they were from to be registered. Joseph went from Nazareth, in Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David. Mary accompanied him. So, while they were there in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to deliver her baby. Because so many had come to Bethlehem to register, there was no room for Mary and Joseph in the inn. So, Mary brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger.

Now there were in the same country shepherds out in the fields watching over their sheep by night. An angel of the Lord appeared before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

They said to them, "Do not be afraid, for I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign to you. You will find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger." Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

After the angels left them, the shepherds went to Bethlehem to see this great thing that had happened. Just as they had been told, there they found Mary and Joseph, and Babe lying in a manger.

Now when they had seen Him, they told everyone what they had been told about this Child. All who heard them marveled at those things. The shepherds returned home glorifying and praising God for what they had seen and heard. Others, including wise men from the East, came to see Jesus too.

Yes, I tell this story at least once a year, every year, because this is the real story of Christmas. Many interesting and amusing stories have sprung up around this holiday, but none that begin to be as important as the true story of Christmas, originally told in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. May you have a great and wonderful Christmas, and always remember He is the real reason for the season! Merry Christmas my friends!

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

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Dec. 27, 1928

From the files of Dec. 27, 1928

White City Club News
Group A of the White City 4-H club prepared a breakfast for Group B on Wednesday, Dec. 12th.

The breakfast was prepared and served at the home of Mrs. H. E. Ryan, our local club leader. The table was attractively decorated in Christmas colors, and the menu cards were designed in the shape of a four leaf clover. The menu was: corn flakes with peaches and cream, butter, toast, preserves and hot chocolate. During the meal Group A entertained Group B with music and readings.

The breakfast was a success and enjoyed by all. Mrs. Rounds acted as hostess. The breakfast was full of good pointers for everyone, on etiquette, table setting, decorations, serving, etc.

Group B is now planning on preparing and serving Group A a dinner in the near future.

Carrie Belle Absher,
Club Reporter.

Cullman's Charity and Christianity
Mr. Editor: If you will permit me space in your columns, I wish to say a few words about my observations Christmas morning. Early that morning trucks and cars began moving to every part of the community distributing to the needy the necessities of life and luxuries in proportion to the occasion, such as fruits, candies, dolls, etc. This was all done through the big hearted charitable and Christian people of Cullman gratis. Not one cent being retained for their services. This was made possible by the Community Chest and the different churches and individuals, all cooperating to make somebody happy.

Now, isn't Cullman a good town to live in.

A Cullman Citizen.

Cullman Fire Department Fights Many Fires During Christmas Holidays
Saturday the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Kraft caught fire by a spark of fire falling on the roof and the wind whipping it into a blaze before any one noticed it. Someone passing noticed the fire on the roof and went over a block to a telephone to turn in the fire alarm. The Cullman Fire Department answered the call immediately and soon had the fire under control and the blaze extinguished. Mr. Kraft, in appreciation for the services of the firemen, presented them with a sizable check.

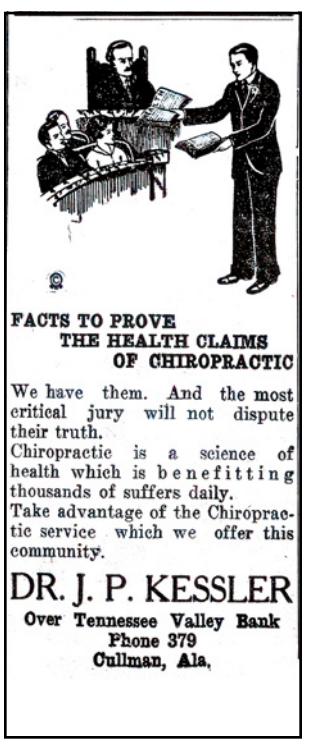
Tuesday the roof of the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Buchmann caught fire but this fire was discovered before it got much headway and was extinguished with chemicals by the fire department, without much property damage by fire or water.

Tuesday at noon, just as most of the Cullman firefighters were sitting down to their Christmas dinners, the fire alarm sounded. This time it was the roof of the T. J. Callahan residence ablaze. This fire was extinguished with chemicals before any headway was gained and the property damage was small.

Sunday afternoon the grass in the front yard of Dr. L. N. Whitman's home caught fire and as the blaze grew larger and the wind was blowing too, the fire department was called to extinguish the blaze.

Thursday afternoon at 1:30 a fire alarm was sounded, the cause of which proved to be a grass fire at the old Richard house on Second Ave., east.

It is hoped that the fire department will be able to extinguish all fires in the future with as much ease and with as little property damage as they have during the past week.



POET'S CORNER

The Old Cup | By: Randy C. Hale

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

The old cup, stained from
years and years, yet enduring
and useful still.
Touched by the familiar hand
time and time again.

Sinking into the cloudy foam,
into baptism, grasped first,
then the turning of the cloth,
without, within, around the rim.

Resurrected into light,
rinsed and placed to dry.
Once again, ready to bear
the hot or the cold—touching
first the lips and then the soul.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

DEC. 27

B	E	G	U	N	L	O	G	S	T	O	Y	R	B	D
E	P	S	U	K	I	D	Y	R	W	D	A	U	O	O
U	N	I	T	M	T	U	R	A	I	D	C	R	W	B
S	O	R	C	A	B	M	S	A	N	N	T	H	T	C
C	R	O	P	K	B	P	A	T	R	Y	D	E	H	O
Q	U	N	Y	E	I	L	T	N	O	E	M	R	A	N
U	U	T	E	R	A	N	I	N	N	L	O	S	V	S
I	A	A	T	L	A	S	C	S	E	F	E	X	I	E
T	N	S	R	I	S	K	A	H	H	N	I	O	N	Q
W	E	D	K	R	N	R	C	M	I	M	S	P	G	U
I	C	D	I	P	E	G	S	L	S	D	E	E	S	E
P	T	E	E	A	T	L	T	D	A	S	H	N	A	N
E	A	E	X	I	T	U	E	D	D	S	A	C	T	T
D	R	D	M	T	O	E	R	D	A	V	H	X	I	L
C	F	O	X	S	F	A	N	C	Y	S	I	F	B	Y

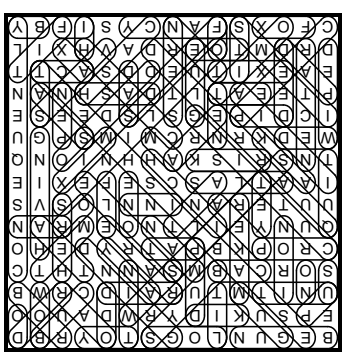
Act
Am
Ant
Any
Ask
Atlas
Ax
Begun
Bow
Buys
By
Cab
Cash
Clash
Creep
Crop
Cub
Cutting
Dads
Dash
Deed
Dip
Do
Dump
Eat
Elf
Era
Estab-
lishment
Exit
Fancy
Feeds
Fit
Fox
Glue
Grind
Gum
Having
Hers
Hi
If
Inch
India
Inn
Iron
Items
Its
Kid
Lit
Logs
Maker
Man
Met
Mix
Nectar
Net
No
Oar
Odd
Of
Omit
One
Or
Outlines
Pad
Pat
Pea
Pen
Quarreled
Quit
Raid
Ran
Rare
Risk
Rob
Rod
Sad
Sat
Saw
Sea
So
Stern
Stole
Strip
Tea
Ten
Toe
Toy
Trips
Twin
Unit
Up
Us
Vans
Wed
Wiped
Yet

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

DEC. 27

							9	3
		5						
		8	5				2	6
7	5		3	1				
					7		4	
			2					
4						3		
	1		9					
	7		6	5	8			2

ANSWERS:



9	7	3	6	5	8	4	1	2
5	1	2	9	4	3	6	8	7
4	8	6	7	2	1	3	5	9
8	6	4	2	9	5	7	3	1
2	3	1	8	6	7	9	4	5
7	5	9	3	1	4	2	6	8
3	4	8	5	7	9	1	2	6
6	9	5	1	3	2	8	7	4
1	2	7	4	8	6	5	9	3





Obituary Announcements: Dec. 23-26

Anthony Bruce Wise, 68
Graveside service for Anthony Bruce Wise, 68 of Cullman, will be at 11 a.m., Friday, Dec. 26, 2025, at New Prospect Baptist Cemetery, Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Mr. Wise passed away Dec. 20, 2025, at CRMC. He was born Jan. 21, 1957, to Billy Joe and Lee Gail Abbott Wise. He was a loving brother, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was an avid Auburn fan. He was preceded in death by his parents and his grandparents, Raymond and Annie Mae Wise, Robert and Francis Abbott. Survivors include his daughter, Summer Hood; granddaughters, Autumn Crowley (Ryan), Holly Hood; great-grandsons, Ryker Crowley, Zayden Crowley, Xavier Crowley; sisters, Shelia Rice (Elton), Denice McCarn (Chester); brother, Chris Wise (Lisa); special friend, Kathy Sizemore; many more friends and family. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making donations to St. Jude's Hospital. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Mary Jo Gerstman, 80
Funeral Service for Mary Jo Gerstman, age 80 of Vinemont, will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home; burial at Rock Springs Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Gerstman passed away on Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025, at the Folsom Center. She was born Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1945, to Herman Leon Sisk and Mary Evelyn Wood Sisk Stephens. Mrs. Gerstman was born and raised in Blountsville, Alabama, where she attended JB Pennington High School. She was a homemaker. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, William Ray Gerstman; sisters, Shirley Sisk Parrish and Betty Sisk Alldredge; and step-son, William Dale Gerstman. Survivors include her sons, Tommy Joseph Morris (Marsha), Sr., son, Anthony Lee Morris (Denise); step-children, Michael Ray Gerstman (Angie), Billy Joe Gerstman, and Frances Jeanette Gerstman Smith, 11 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Carolyn Marie Tarvin, 79
Carolyn Tarvin age 79 of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away on Monday morning, Dec. 22, 2025. She was born, July 25, 1946, to Stephen and Lillian Elizabeth Williams. She was proceeded in death by her parents; her son, Joseph Tarvin and granddaughter, Leah Grace Tarvin. Survivors include her husband, Tommy Joe Tarvin; sons, Mark Tarvin (Cindy), Jonathan Tarvin (Lisa) and Phillip Tarvin; sister, Glenda Chaviers (David); brother, Roger Williams; 10 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren she loved with all her heart. Grandchildren are Michael, Eric, Jon, Jessica, Matthew, Seleena, Anna, Daniel & Dianne Tarvin. 6 great grandchildren. A Memorial Service will be announced at a later date.

Jane Ballard Mize, 87
Jane Ballard Mize passed away peacefully on Dec. 19, 2025, in Temple, Texas, of natural causes. Jane was born on Dec. 1, 1938, in Good Hope, Alabama, to Ed and Corina Ballard. She was a proud graduate of Good Hope High School, where she met her high school sweetheart and future husband, Marlin Gene "Sonny" Mize. The two shared a devoted marriage until Marlin's passing on Oct. 8, 2016. Jane and Marlin embraced military life through the United States Air Force, building a life together that carried them across the country and the world. Their journey included homes in Massachusetts, Mississippi, Guam, South Dakota, and later Fort Worth and Abilene, Texas. They were blessed with two sons: Craig, born in Massachusetts, and Michael, born in Mississippi. Following Marlin's retirement from the Air Force, the family settled in Cullman, Alabama. There, Jane began a remarkable second chapter of her life. With a lifelong love of learning, she enrolled at the University of Alabama, earning her undergraduate degree and later completing her doctorate in Marketing. Armed with her education and entrepreneurial spirit, Jane founded her own marketing company, JBM, in Cullman. In their later years, Jane and Marlin moved to Ennis, Texas, to be closer to their youngest son. Jane quickly became an active and beloved member of the Ennis community. She was deeply involved in Rotary and worked closely with physicians and staff at the local hospital, where she was cherished by both patients and caregivers. Even as her health declined, Jane's warmth, curiosity, and generosity never faded. Family members have heard countless stories from hospital and nursing home staff about the joy she brought to those around her. During her final stay at Baylor Scott and White ICU in Temple, her nurses shared how Jane continued to inspire them-showing off the papers she was working on, demonstrating her lifelong passion for learning, and ordering snacks for nurses, technicians, and staff simply to brighten their days. Even in her final hours, Jane's instinct was to give, to connect, and to share her enthusiasm for life and for people. She will be remembered as a devoted wife and mother, a scholar, an entrepreneur, a community servant, and a woman whose kindness left a lasting impression wherever she went. Jane is survived by her son Craig Mize and wife Pat; granddaughters Rachel Mize and Lori Mize Raymond and husband Carl; great-grandchildren Hailey Brownell; Logan Frank; Kaylynn and Corbin Raymond; her son Michael Mize and wife Carol; and grandsons Ryan Mize and Adam Mize.

Joyce O'Brien, 84
Funeral services for Joyce O'Brien, 84, of Hanceville, will be 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. O'Brien was born June 12, 1941, in Cullman, Alabama to the late James and Treecie Thompson. She passed away Dec. 21, 2025, in Cullman, Alabama. Mrs. O'Brien is survived by her husband, Doug O'Brien; children, Steven O'Brien (Tracey), Julie O'Brien; grandchildren, Malory O'Brien, Clint O'Brien; brother, Ted Thompson (Janice); brother-in-law, Lester Duncan; and a host of nieces, and nephews. Mrs. O'Brien was preceded in death by her father, Henry Thompson; mother, Treecie Thompson; and her siblings, Stan Thompson, Glenda Duncan, Charlotte Miller, and Imogene Galin. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the O'Brien family.

Wyoma Dean Folds, 90
Funeral service for Wyoma Dean Folds, 90, of Cullman will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Cemetery, Jeffrey Folds officiating. The family will receive friends on Saturday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Folds passed from this life Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025, at her residence. She was born March 30, 1935, to H.T. and Opal Gentry Allen. She was a homemaker and loved her family. She was Granny to all the kids. She attended Mt. Zion Baptist Church where she taught Sunday School, was VBS director over the years. The family sends a special thank you to her hospice nurses, Lindy, Brittney and Kelly. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Oneal Folds; grandson, Bryan Folds; brothers, Darold Allen, Jerry Allen, Lowell Allen. Survivors include her sons, Randy (Marie) Folds, Jackie (Wanda) Folds, Kim (Anita) Folds; daughter, Beth Pinyan; brothers, Dudley Allen, Harold Allen; sisters, Gwen Parker, Diann (George) Hightower; sisters-in-law, Cheryl Allen, Joyce Allen; twelve grandchildren; 44 great-grandchildren; five great-great grandchildren; a host of family and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making donations to CRMC Hospice. Pallbearers will be Chad Folds, Jeremy Folds, Justin Hill, Jackson Nixon, Kristian Folds, Gabe Massey, Lantz Hill. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Johnny Ray Givens, 73
Memorial service for Johnny Ray Givens, 73, of Cullman is incomplete at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Givens passed away Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2025, at his residence. He was born Feb. 2, 1952, to Alem Jessie and Lester Samantha Trussell Givens. Over the years, Johnny was a truck driver and a logger. He was a hard worker. He loved his mules. Johnny loved his family. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers and sisters. He is survived by son, Scotty (Anastasia) Givens; daughters, Gennia (Bobby) Wilhite, Belinda (Kevin) McCurry; sisters, Nell (Ed) New, Shelby Givens; grandchildren, Tyler (Chelsea) Huffstutler, Tristan McCurry, Lawson Givens; great-grandchildren, Brooklyn Huffstutler, Maddi Huffstutler, Ava McCurry; nephew, James Allen Givens; niece, Brenda Cox; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Terrie J. Lippeatt, 59
A memorial service for Terrie J. Lippeatt, 59, will be held in February at Carey Farms in Vinemont. Date and time to be announced. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Terrie passed away Dec. 24, 2025, after a long, hard fight with cancer. She grew up in the North Jefferson area and was a graduate of Fultondale High School. She retired from UAB with over 30 years of service. Terrie loved her family & friends, Alabama football, her dogs, and especially loved her grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Reba and Pete Vaughn, and her husband, Adam Lippeatt. Survivors include her daughters, Tonya (James) Carey, Candice Lippeatt, Sarah (Tyler) Watson; sisters, Angie (Bobby) Beasley, Tracy (Daryl) Shaver, Paula Jones VanWinkle; grandchildren, Audrey Tubbs, Addison Watson and Cayson Watson. Friends may sign the guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Donald Fredrick Collins, 84
Donald Fredrick Collins, age 84 of Cullman, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025, at Westminster Assisted Living of Cullman. He was born Oct. 18, 1941. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his sister-in-law, Patsy E Baker and brother, Jim Phillips. No services are planned at this time.

Darrell Johns, 81
Darrell Johns, born on June 19, 1944, in Alabama, passed away on Dec. 24, 2025, at the age of 81. Darrell is survived by his daughters, DeAnne Johns and Leanne Sterling (Anthony); granddaughters Ashley, Bethony, and Callie; grandsons Josh and Hunter; and great-grandchildren Ember, Alaya, Carson, Blakely, and Jaylen. He was predeceased by his father, Herbert Johns, his mother, Icee Mae Speegle Johns, and his wife, Joyce Wilson Johns, and a host of other family members and friends also survive him. A Celebration of Life Graveside Service will be held at Bowman's Chapel Cemetery, located in Cullman, Alabama, on Monday, Dec. 29, 2025, at 1 p.m. To leave condolences for the family, please visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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

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

FREE OBITUARY LISTINGS

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

Email: obits@cullmantribune.com

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