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SENATOR GARLAN GUDGER

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

Gentry officially qualifies for Alabama Public Service Commission, Place 1



MATT GENTRY

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry » PAGE 2

Gudger qualifies for reelection to Alabama Senate District 4



ALABAMA LEGISLATURE

Sen. Garlan Gudger » PAGE 2

Josh Speakman announces run for Cullman County Commission, District 2



CONTRIBUTED

Josh Speakman » PAGE 6

Nerf War: Kids vs. Cops



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Participants take cover in the Nerf War at the Cullman OmniPlex on June 14, 2025.

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Coming Feb. 7, from 9 a.m.-noon at the Cullman OmniPlex! This action-packed event is open to kids ages 4–12 and is part of the Shop with a Cop fundraiser. For just $20 per child, families can enjoy a safe, exciting day where kids team up for some Nerf fun while building positive connections with local law enforcement. Come out, support a great cause and make some unforgettable memories together! Register at https://tinyurl.com/NerfWarCops.

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MOSTLY CLOUDY

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Bill Smith
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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 5

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 5, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Dec. 29
- harassing communications; CR 127
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1398
- unauthorized use of vehicle; 3rd St. SE Garden City
- domestic violence; CR 2727
- theft of property; CR 872

Dec. 30
- burglary; CR 747
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 69S
- unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle; theft of property; CR 747
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Olive St. SW
- violation of protection order; CR 143
- theft of property; Main St. SW Hanceville
- burglary; theft of property; Hwy. 69N
- domestic violence; Magnolia Ave. NW
- harassing communications; CR 1855

Dec. 31
- violation of protection order; Hwy. 278E
- trafficking drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; I65SB MM291
- violation of protection order; Beech Grove Rd.
- theft of property; Hwy. 278W

Jan. 1
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Firestation Rd.
- violation of protection order; Beech Ave. SE
- domestic violence; CR 1223
- possession of controlled substance; CR 547
- domestic violence-menacing; CR 109

Jan. 2
- domestic violence-trespassing; CR 1669
- domestic violence; CR 1682
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 157
- harassing communications; Meadow Dr.

Jan. 3
- domestic violence; CR 399
- criminal mischief; Self Ave. NE
- menacing; CR 1082
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 831
- possession of controlled substance; possession of dangerous drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 831

Jan. 4
- domestic violence; CR 1130
- unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle; CR 782
- possession of controlled substance; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 310
- theft of property; CR 1145
- burglary; CR 1856
- assault; CR 387
- theft of property; CR 1769
- domestic violence; CR 437
- theft of property; CR 1127

ARRESTS

Dec. 29-31

Baker, Jr., Clinton C.; 69
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Ballenger, Zachary D.; 28
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Brooks, Benjamin B.; 46
- possession of methamphetamine

Brown, Kimberly A.; 52
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- promote prison contraband (other)

Burgett, Alex C.; 37
- DUI (alcohol)

Cammon, Michael E.; 61
- public intoxication (2 counts)
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Cruze, Penny L.; 40
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Curtis, Jesse L.; 33
- DUI (alcohol)

Daneua, Philip; 36
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA – public intoxication

Dragon, Albert J.; 45
- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- possession of dangerous drugs

Faulkner, Sherrilyn M.; 64
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Gilley, Justin R.; 41
- possession of heroin
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Griffin, Allen R.; 52
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Hays, Marisa L.; 36
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Hill, Rufus H.; 37
- assault-domestic-menacing-other weapon

Hyde, Bronada F.; 49
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Johnson, Albert L.; 43
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Marsh, Jr., Myron C.; 61
- FTA – assault-harassment
- FTA – sex offense-failure of adult sex offender to register with local law enforcement and/or comply with resid restriction

McCormick, Jeffery S.; 36
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – criminal trespass

Perez, Daniel M.; 24
- DUI (alcohol)

Roaden, Kristie M.; 49
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Seymore, Bradley J.; 56
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Uselton, Dana M.; 36
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Walker, Bobby D.; 54
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Jan. 2
- criminal mischief-2nd degree; person; damage to '17 Nissan; $1,500; Hwy. 31N
- theft of property-3rd degree; person; phone; $1,200
- criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damaged property; $450

Jan. 3
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; White Cir. SW

Jan. 4
- theft of property-3rd degree; Mobil; cash; 2nd Ave. NW
- domestic violence-harassing communications; person

ARRESTS

Jan. 2-4

Neely, Robin M.; 62
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – switched tag
- FTA – driving while suspended (2 counts)

Pigg, Burford E.; 78
- theft of property-4th degree
- criminal trespass-2nd degree

Garner, Bradley W.; 28
- DUI

Ramirez, Eric I.; 29
- theft of property-4th degree

Gilley, Justin R.; 41
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Kitts, Kenneth L.; 77
- theft of property-4th degree
- criminal trespass

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Registered sex offender allegedly using assumed name

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — According to the Cullman Police Department, a registered sex offender was arrested Jan. 1, 2026, at the Cullman Housing Authority following a tip that he was staying at an address on Logan Avenue under an assumed name.

Myron Clifton Marsh Jr., 61, was arrested by Sgt. Rob Long and Officer Joey Williams.

The CPD said Marsh had three active failure to appear (FTA) warrants related to violations of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), as well as one FTA warrant for harassment. During the arrest, Marsh was also charged with resisting arrest.

The CPD said the arrest stemmed from a tip received from the Cullman County Sheriff's Office indicating that Marsh was staying at an address on Logan Avenue under an assumed name.



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Myron Clifton Marsh Jr.

"The Cullman Police Department appreciates the Cullman County Sheriff's Office for their continued partnership in protecting our children and helping make Cullman County a safer place.

"We also appreciate the hard work and professionalism of Sgt. Long and Officer Williams," said a statement from the CPD.

Gudger (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman has qualified for reelection to Alabama Senate District 4.

Below is Gudger's announcement:

State Senator Garlan Gudger (R - Cullman) announced on Monday that he has officially filed qualification papers with the Alabama Republican Party for a new term representing Senate District 4, which includes Cullman, Marion, and Winston counties.

"Since joining the Alabama Senate, I have stood tall promoting the conservative Alabama beliefs and values that make our state and our district such special places to live, work, worship, and raise families," Gudger said. "It is important that we keep working hard to prevent the liberal Democrats and the woke activists from gaining a toehold in the Alabama State House, and I stand ready to lead the fight."

Among the important bills that Gudger has personally sponsored, carried, and passed into law during his time in the Alabama Legislature are:

- A measure that blocks transgender activism by banning men from competing in women's sports across the state and requiring public school students to use restrooms based upon their biological sex at birth rather than any different gender they may claim.

- A bill that mandates businesses and churches must be allowed to stay open during declared emergencies, such as pandemics, because the need to earn a living and worship the Almighty does not stop when times are tense and life is difficult — they become even more important, and government has no business intervening in either.

- A new law that combats voter fraud by creating the crime of "ballot harvesting," which occurs when pre-filled absentee voter applications are gathered or submitted by third-party individuals or workers rather than being directly submitted by voters themselves.

Gudger noted he has also brought millions of dollars in improvements to every area in his Senate district through grants, road and bridge construction and repair funding, public school and community college appropriations, and other community investments he secured.

He conceived, funded, and implemented a post traumatic stress disorder treatment program that provides combat veterans and first responders across the state with free Stellate Ganglion Blockage, or SGB, shots that control the fight or flight signals from the brain, which are common in those with PTSD.

Following the death of Winston County constituent Harold Sachs, his widow told Gudger that she was prohibited from visiting him before his passing due to COVID pandemic restrictions in place at the time, so the senator passed legislation requiring hospitals to allow an "essential care giver" selected by the patient to visit for at least two hours each day.

Gudger also helped pass the largest tax cut in Alabama history by slicing the state sales tax on groceries in half, and he was instrumental in enacting a "Back The Blue" legislative package that shields law enforcement officers from criminal prosecutions and frivolous lawsuits while policing our cities, streets, and neighborhoods.

Gudger was elected Senate President Pro Tem, the highest leadership position in the body, by his colleagues in February of 2025, which represented a meteoric achievement for a member still serving only his second term.

He and his wife, Heather, are the owners and operators of Southern Accents, an architectural salvage business founded in his father's garage in 1969. Recognized as one of the top five architectural salvage companies in the nation, Alabama Magazine also awarded the second generation small business its "Best Antique Store in Alabama" honor for three consecutive years.

The Gudgers have two sons, Tripp and Pierce, and are members of Daystar Church, where they annually participate in mission trips to Uganda and other poverty-stricken areas around the world.

Key dates
- Primary Election: Tuesday, May 19, 2026
- Primary Runoff Election: Tuesday, June 16, 2026
- General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026

Gentry (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry has officially qualified to run for Alabama Public Service Commission, Place 1.

Below is Gentry's announcement:

"Today, I officially qualified as a candidate for the Alabama Public Service Commission, place 1. I want to be a voice for all people and bring transparency and accountability to the work of the Commission. I've spent my career protecting our communities as Sheriff, and I'm ready to protect Alabama ratepayers and the jobs of our utility, railroad, and transportation workers. Thank you to all my friends and family who came out to support me. Please vote Gentry for PSC on May 19th!"

Gentry announced his candidacy back on June 6, 2025.

Key dates
- Primary Election: Tuesday, May 19, 2026
- Primary Runoff Election: Tuesday, June 16, 2026
- General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026

Vinemont (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The Town of Vinemont will continue its monthly senior events this year. Seniors are invited to come out the third Monday of each month, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center.

Vinemont Town Clerk Kayecea Sasser shared, "When attending a senior citizen event, expect a mix of shared meals and opportunities to meet peers in a supportive, often accommodating, environment."

Mayor Bonnie Goodwin, Sasser and the assistant town clerk help plan out the meals and activities for the events.

Sasser said the events would not be possible without the support of local businesses.

"The city council and mayor agreed to start it on the third Monday of each month starting back in January of 2023," she said.

"Every month since then we have steadily increased (attendance).

"We average around 50-60 seniors each month. We don't have a theme every month."

Some months do have themes. In February, guest speaker Rodger Walling will take part in a "Remember When" storytelling event encouraging seniors to share memories of Vinemont from years past.

Sasser said the monthly gatherings are important for providing opportunities for seniors to connect, make new friends and reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation.

"The resulting laughter, camaraderie and conversation are invaluable," she said.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/townofsouthvinemont or call 256-737-5411.

The Vinemont Community Center is located at 88 Ridgeway St. The January gathering will take place Monday, Jan. 19, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.





COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

Cullman County Historical Society Meetings
We meet the fourth Sunday of the month from 2-4 p.m. at the Cullman County Museum. Each meeting features a specific program or speaker. Join us!

Attention Senior Citizens
If you are 60 or over, please come to the Cullman Senior Center at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW and have some fun with us and eat lunch. Good fun, good friends and good food. Different things going on Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. Volunteers needed to deliver meals to homebound. Call Commission on Aging for info. 256-734-1241.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
- 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
- 256-739-3326
- spiritlifechurchcullman@gmail.com
- FB-Spirit Life Church Cullman
- Wednesday, Jan. 7 – 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, Jan. 9 – 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, Jan. 10 – 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Indoor yard sale
- Sunday, Jan. 11 – 9 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

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

Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 8, at 6 p.m. at Christ Covenant Church, 1310 Saint Joseph Dr. NW in Cullman. Quilters of all experience levels are welcome.

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.

CHS Class of 1969 Luncheon
Saturday, Jan. 24, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center. Casual dress. Spouse/significant other included. Please check your email and respond accordingly.

Cullman Eagle Forum Meeting
Monday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. at the Hanceville Housing Authority, 819 Kiki Drive, Hanceville, AL 35077. We will be training local citizens on hand counting election ballots. Come see how fun and easy it is to perform this essential civic duty. All are invited to attend.

Cullman Women's Health Forum
- Saturday, Jan. 31 at 1 p.m. at The Venue at Cotton Creek. Local nonprofit Lotus Health Inc. is hosting its inaugural Women's Health Forum with the generous support of our Gold Sponsors – Alabama Farmers Federation and First Federal Mortgage – along with other gracious sponsors/collaborators. Please join us as we connect with community/state leaders and health care professionals for a day focused on women's health, education, preventative screenings and local resources.
- We will open the Free Day Forum at 1p.m. with women's healthcare exhibitors hosted by The Venue at Cotton Creek (417 Third Ave. SW Cullman). We have a great itinerary of speakers on women's health and free women's health screenings.
- We are also honored to present Senate hopeful Jared Hudson (R), and Attorney General candidates Katherine Robertson (R) and Pamela Casey (R) for a live podcast. Topics will include trafficking and current legislation impacting women's health in Alabama. We are currently accepting exhibitors and welcome sponsors for this important day of education and dialog.
- Following our FREE day forum, we will gather for a Meet and Greet dinner.
- For more information and to purchase dinner tickets/sponsor or become an exhibitor please visit https://lotushealthinc.org/events/womens-health-forum. We look forward to meeting with you in our effort to improve women's health outcomes in the state of Alabama.

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.

Casino Night Benefiting Hope Horses
Saturday, Feb. 28, from 6-10 p.m. at Cotton Creek, 417 Third Ave. SW in Cullman. Let's go all-in for a fun-filled casino night benefiting Hope Horses! Tickets are $100 and include dinner, drinks and starter chips! Hope Horses, Inc. is a nonprofit organization. All donations made payable to Hope Horses are tax deductible. For more information, please email us at krice@hopehorsesinc.com.







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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JANUARY 6, 2026

Lady Warriors extend winning streak to 17 with 61-43 win over Lady Aggies

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. — The no. 4-ranked West Point Lady Warriors traveled to Fairview to take on the Lady Aggies in Saturday afternoon hoops action. A hot streak from the Lady Warriors gave them a sizable lead early on. Fairview went on runs to try and get back in the game, but ultimately, the Lady Warriors were too much for the Lady Aggies in the end and would go on to defeat Fairview, 61-43.

Kailyn Redding put in a driving layup to put the Lady Aggies on the scoreboard first, but West Point got red-hot in a hurry soon after. Jaelyn and Camryn Faulkner scored 11 of the first 14 points for the Lady Warriors, Kealie Harbison knocked down a three, and Laklin Shadix added a basket down low to give them a 16-2 lead late in the first quarter.

Darby Nichols stopped the bleeding with a three, and Kensli Redding added a basket in the paint to cut it to 16-7. Shadix drained a three from the right wing to put West Point ahead 19-7 going into the second period.

Driving layups by Nichols and Kailyn Redding made it a 19-12 game, and later in the quarter, Kailyn Redding drilled a pair of free throws to cut it to 21-14.

Shadix scored down low, Harbison collected a steal and a layup, and Jaelyn Faulkner and Shadix added baskets in the paint to stretch the Lady Warrior lead to 29-14. Kailyn Redding added another driving layup to trim the Fairview deficit to a 12-point game at 29-17 at the half.

Five quick points from Shadix gave West Point a 34-17 lead early in the third. Whitney Quick drilled a three to cut it to 34-20, but a basket in the paint by Jaelyn Faulkner and a trey by Camryn Faulkner put the Lady Warriors ahead, 39-20. A pair of driving layups by Kailyn Redding made it a 39-24 game.

Later in the quarter, Shadix found Patton Fell in the right corner for a three, then baskets by Shadix and Harbison increased West Point's lead to 48-27. Nichols buried a trey just before the buzzer to cut it to 48-30 going into the final period.

Jaelyn Faulkner drilled a trey, and Harbison scored the next three points for the Lady Warriors, as that gave them a 54-30 lead.

Quick's three-point play and a three by Nichols made it a 54-36 game, but a pair of baskets in the paint by Shadix and a three-point play by Faulkner widened West Point's lead to 61-36.

The Lady Warriors would go on to defeat the Lady Aggies, 61-43, as their winning streak is now at 17 straight games.

Shadix finished with a game-high 22 points for West Point (17-1). Jaelyn Faulkner added 14 points. Camryn Faulkner ended up with 12 points, and Harbison posted 10 points.

For Fairview, Kailyn Redding led the way with 16 points, and Nichols added 15 points.

West Point will host Lawrence County, and Fairview will host Arab in a pair of huge region games next Tuesday night.

Addison girls fall, boys roll at home vs. Lynn

Todd Walker
Tribune Correspondent

ADDISON, Ala. — Addison hosted the Lynn Bears in a boys/girl's matchup with county bragging rights on the line. In their previous matchup, the Lady Bears beat the Addison Lady 'Dawgs while the 'Dawg boys took down the Bears. Tonight was no different, as the Lady Bears took down Addison 40-36 while the Addison boys rolled the Bears 78-29.

Lynn 40 – Addison 36
(Varsity Girls)

The ladies from Addison were hoping for a better showing than the first go around as the Lady Bears won by 28 at home. Tonight would be greatly different, and the ladies from Addison came to play. The first period was a back-and-forth affair as neither team could create any distance between them. Lynn was leading 11-8 behind Lady Bear Allie Stewart's 9 points when Lady Dawg Morgan Lee drained a three-pointer at the buzzer to tie the game at 11. Addison was led by Ava Bartlett's monster period of four points, four rebounds and four blocks. Stewart led the Lady Bears with her nine points.

The second period had the ladies from Addison picking it up a notch and actually winning the period 13-10 to go into the half with a 24-21 lead. Bartlett again led Addison with four points, four boards and two blocks. Lee chipped in another three points with two assists. Lynn's Dereka Bryan led the Lady Bears with eight points while Stewart had five rebounds.

The second half is becoming like the film "Groundhog Day" for Addison's girls, as they are forced to struggle in the third period each with the one constant being that the Lady 'Dawgs just can't find a way to score. The ladies from Lynn took control, and rolled off 11 straight points to open the half. It started with a Bryan putback and continued with four more layups, three of them by Thompson. Lynn went from trailing 24-21 to leading 32-24. Addison's Bartlett hit a five-footer to end the drought and give Addison their only bucket of the third. Lynn went into the fourth period leading 32-26.

The fourth started with Lady 'Dawg Kabri Dyson hitting a layup to cut the lead to 32-28. Lynn's Alli Dutton hit a free throw pushing the lead to five, and then both teams traded baskets with the Lady Bears came out on top 40-36 in the end. Addison's Dyson had eight of Addison's 10 points in the fourth. Hadley Welch and Bartlett each had three rebounds for Addison. Lynn's Dutton had four points and five rebounds in the period.

Unofficial stats:
Addison was led by Bartlett with 10 points, 14 rebounds, two steals and six blocks. Dyson had 12 points, two boards and four steals. Lee had six points, four rebounds and two assists. Emma Cleghorn had three points and six rebounds. Welch had two points and three rebounds.

Lynn was led by Bryan with 14 points and two rebounds. Thompson had 10 points and two rebounds. Stewart had nine points and 12 boards. Dutton had five points and 10 rebounds. Alli Beth King had two points and four boards.

Addison 78 – Lynn 29
(Boys Varsity)

The Addison men had a tooth and nail fight in their first go around with the Bears coming away with the win. Tonight, the Dawgs came out focused, full of energy and played some of the tightest defense they have all year. Addison jumped out to a 12-0 lead to start and didn't look back. It started with a Connor Lane steal and layup. That was followed by two Elijah Roberts layups and a Joey Wilson put back. Roberts drained two free throws and then hit a five-footer. Lynn finally had a Colby Sherer trey go down and it stood at 12-3 with 4:40 to go in the first period. The Bulldogs went on another scoring stretch, and eventually finished with a 28-7 first period lead. Addison had Roberts with 12 points, three rebounds and two steals in the period and Kiah Lake had six rebounds. Addison played total team ball as the Bulldogs had seven assists on their ten made baskets. Lynn was led by Sherer's three points and Chip Crowe two points and four rebounds.



BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Addison's Scout Flynn attempting a layup

The second period brought more pressure from the Addison defense and the Bulldogs outscored the Bears 24 to 5 to go into the half leading 52-12. Dawg Roberts had 11 points, three boards and two assists. Wilson had four points, Lane had three and Lake snatched four more rebounds to go along with a pair of assists. Lynn had Sherer and Aiden Steele with a bucket a piece. Again, the 'Dawgs had 6 assists on their 10 made baskets.

The second half was more competitive, and the Bulldogs cleared the bench and played everyone but the assistant coaches. Addison took the third period 16-11 to go into the fourth with a 68-23. Addison was led by Lane's five points and Judah Wilkins four. Lynn got more production as Sherer and Crowe had four points each. Crowe had four more rebounds.

The fourth had Addison taking the period, 10-6 for the 78-29 win. Addison's Kyeler Hill had six points, while Joe Hacker two points with three rebounds. The Bears were led by Sherer's seven points and Eli Rivers had five rebounds.

Unofficial stats:
Addison was led by Roberts with a game-high 26 points, six rebounds, three assists and three steals. Lane had 12 points, two boards, two assists and two steals. Scout Flynn had nine points and 10 boards. Wilson had eight points, two rebounds and three assists. Wilkins had six points and four rebounds. Hill had six points. Lake had four points, 13 rebounds and four assists. Canaan Speegle had five points with three assists. Joe Hacker had two points and three boards. Silas Frazier had two assists.

Lynn was led by Sherer with 16 points and two rebounds. Crowe had six points and 13 rebounds. Caden Key had three points and four boards. Tanner Torres had three points. Steele had two points and four boards. Rivers had seven boards. Casey Odom had two boards.



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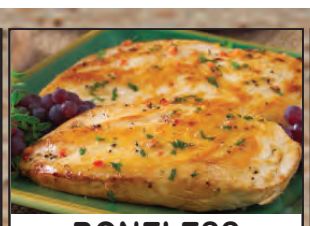
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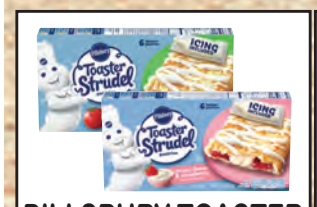
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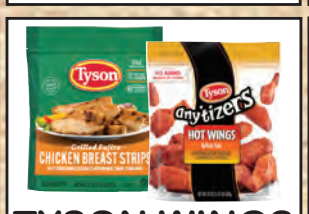
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ACES: RiverKids

Emily Nichols
Contributor



ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Paddling is a great way to experience Alabama's abundant water resources — more than 132,000 miles of freshwater — firsthand while enjoying outdoor physical activity with friends and family. Since the program's launch in 2016, RiverKids participants, have paddled more than 1,000 miles of freshwater while gaining hands-on knowledge about key environmental and resource management issues that affect Alabama's waterways.

RiverKids is essential to promoting healthy lifestyles rooted in outdoor recreation while fostering appreciation of and engagement with Alabama's diverse natural resources for people of all ages and backgrounds.

The program gives adult paddling leaders practical leadership experience and competencies in areas such as paddling, basic aquatic recreation safety, wilderness and remote first aid, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

These leaders, in turn, help youth ages 9 to 18 develop paddling and water safety skills while learning about the importance of Alabama's freshwater ecosystems.

Impact

In 2025, RiverKids aquatic programming engaged 1,008 adults and youths in 35 counties, enabling them to paddle 188 miles on 20 of the state's waterways.

Participants earned 58 adult leader certifications in wilderness and remote first aid, CPR, and small watercraft operation and aquatic safety. Strong community partnerships, sponsorships, and dedicated volunteers and staff make this work possible.

Local organizations, community groups, and Extension offices collaborate to provide resources, expertise, and support, ensuring that RiverKids remains accessible and impactful across Alabama.

Participation

Counties currently supporting a RiverKids program include Autauga, Barbour, Bibb, Blount, Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Chilton, Cleburne, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Cullman, DeKalb, Fayette, Jackson, Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Randolph, Russell, St. Clair, Shelby, Tallapoosa and Winston counties.

To learn more about RiverKids offerings in your community, contact your county Extension office.

Reach the Cullman County Extension Office at 256-737-9386.

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EDITORIAL

Killing the part of me that walks away

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

I have a character flaw, one I can no longer dress up as self-preservation or strength.

When relationships fracture in my life, with family, friends, business associates or the women I have loved, my instinct is to retreat. Not to repair. Not to listen. I pause people. I shut doors. I disappear from shared spaces and shared memories.

I convince myself that distance will bring clarity, that time will tell me whether someone deserves to be let back in or permanently shut out.

It is a child's way of thinking. And I followed it for far too long.

With family, friends and colleagues, that pause often becomes silence. With romantic relationships, it becomes deletion.

Entire chapters are banished. Restaurants avoided. Roads abandoned. Familiar places become forbidden because memory is too vivid to tolerate.

Walking back into those spaces feels like stepping into a warped version of "Back to the Future," except instead of Marty McFly, it is me standing there, surrounded by moments that once felt safe and now feel unbearable.

For years, I told myself this was how I protected my heart. That blocking, avoiding and cutting ties was maturity.

That shutting down was growth. That if I didn't look back, I wouldn't hurt.

That was a lie I told myself countless times.

What I called boundaries was actually avoidance. What I called strength was emotional withdrawal. What I framed as protection was simply hardening my heart and walking away before I had to sit with discomfort, accountability or vulnerability.

I learned this in the most painful way possible.

Recently, I was confronted with the reality that cutting someone out does not pause life. It does not freeze the world where you left it. Life continues. News still comes. Tragedy still happens.

And when it does, you are left standing on the outside of a moment you no longer have access to.

When bad news arrives and you are no longer part of someone's life, the distance you created does not protect you.

It crushes you.

I see now that my behavior did not just affect me. It hurt people who once broke bread with me, rode beside me, cared for me and trusted me.

It hurt mutual friends who were forced into awkward silence. It strained families already fragile. It denied others the dignity of conversation or closure.

Most painfully, it hurt people I truly loved.

There is nothing I can do to repair many of those relationships. Some fractures are too old. Many bridges collapsed quietly without notice. And one person, one of the very few I loved without reservation, is no longer here. That door is closed forever.

That truth does not just sting. It settles. It is permanent.

Looking back, I see a pattern rooted in fear and immaturity. I did not ask questions, wait to listen nor stay when things became uncomfortable.

I chose disappearance because it felt easier than emotional courage. I chose silence because it felt safer than being wrong.

I told myself I was protecting my heart when I was really shrinking it.

There is a cost to living this way. Not immediately. Loneliness does not announce itself. It creeps in slowly, after the noise fades and the shared places empty out.

It arrives when grief shows up and there is no one left who remembers the same moments the way you do.

I cannot undo the damage. I cannot reopen doors that no longer exist. But I can name the flaw honestly. I can admit that my way of coping was rooted in fear and emotional immaturity.

And I can choose, moving forward, to stay present longer, listen harder and walk away less easily.

Some lessons arrive gently.

Others arrive when the room is already empty.

This one arrived far too late.

Speakman (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Josh Speakman announced this week that he is seeking the Republican nomination for Cullman County Commission, District 2. He stated his decision comes after prayer and conversations with family and close friends and is rooted in a desire to serve the community and support continued progress across Cullman County.

Speakman said his campaign is focused on being a voice for District 2 residents and using his experience working with nonprofit organizations and government entities to help guide the county through ongoing growth and change.

"Today, as we all embrace the nostalgic idea of new opportunities promised by the beginning of a new year, I am announcing my campaign to be the Republican nominee for Cullman County Commissioner, District 2," Speakman said.

"After much prayer and lengthy conversations with my family and close friends, I am confident in my choice to enter this race in order to represent the people of my district and work to promote the progress of Cullman County in its entirety," he said.

Speakman said his goal is to serve as a collaborative leader and to help improve quality of life for county residents through teamwork, transparency and compromise.

"My intention is to be a true voice for the people I represent and to use my experience working with multiple organizations and government entities to ensure the progress of our county," Speakman said. "I am hopeful to win this position in county leadership to allow me to be of greater service to this community."

He said he believes Cullman County can continue to grow by working together and addressing challenges such as the recent surge in population.

"I know we can build a team founded in truth and working together to improve the quality of life for all Cullman citizens," Speakman said.

"It will be a great honor to represent District 2 and together through compromise and teamwork truly navigate the issues our community is facing such as the unbelievable surge of people moving to Cullman."

Speakman cited more than two decades of community involvement as preparation for public office, including service with a range of nonprofit organizations and advisory councils.

"I have spent the last 20 years building a network of like-minded individuals who are hardworking, compassionate and generous," Speakman said. "I call this network my Hometeam and I have been blessed to be able to witness the incredible acts of kindness we have been able to accomplish by working together towards a common goal."

He has served on the boards of Victim Services of Cullman and Saving Forgotten Warriors and is a charter member of The Bosom Buddies Foundation and Marching Forward Inc., helping draft bylaws and organizational frameworks.

Speakman has also served on advisory councils for Cold Springs and Harmony schools and the Tri-County Advisory Council for LifeSouth Community Blood Center, along with being a member of the Cullman Lions Club and Cullman Elks Lodge.

Speakman said his background in working with diverse groups and navigating complex personalities will translate to county government.

"The experience I have gained over the last 20 years working with different types of non-profits will prove essential in the business of county government," he said. "My experience and ability in networking will solidify the teamwork and cooperation between county government, state government and the other agencies who influence the quality of life in our phenomenal town."

He said the campaign is focused on unity rather than personal ambition.

"This campaign is clearly not about me or any personal agenda, it's about building a strong and unified community which addresses the wants and needs of its people," Speakman said. "With unity and transparency we will be efficient in our efforts to bring opportunity and advancement to this community."

Speakman said he is grateful for the encouragement he has received and is asking voters for their support.

"I humbly ask for your prayers and support and invite you to join our team," he said. "Most importantly I ask for your vote to be the Republican nominee for the next Cullman County Commissioner, District 2."

The Cullman County Commission, District 2 seat is currently held by Commissioner Kelly Duke, who has announced he will not seek another term.

The Republican Primary Election is scheduled for May 19, 2026, with the General Election set for Nov. 3, 2026.

As of publication, no other candidates have publicly announced plans to run for the District 2 seat.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
MARY HAYS, * CASE NO.: PC2025-467
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION

A *Petition for Summary Distribution* of the Estate of Mary Hays has been received on the 19th day of December 2025, and made court record on the 22nd day of December, 2025, in the 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.

David Wayne Hays
Loretta Gail Hays Goodlett
Petitioners

BLAND, HARRIS & McCLELLAN, P.C.
Attorney for Petitioners
401 Second Avenue SW
Cullman Al. 35055
(256) 734-4040
hharris@bhmlawfirm.com

TO PUBLISHER: ***The Cullman Tribune***

Please publish the above notice **ONE TIME** in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 2nd day of January, 2026.

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

STATE OF ALABAMA,)
) IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY.) PC2026-002

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JANICE RUTH WALDEN STEPHENS, who is one and the same person as JANICE RUTH DACUS, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to BRIAN O'NEIL WRIGHT and BRITTANY NICOLE SMITH, as Personal Representatives of the ESTATE OF JANICE RUTH WALDEN STEPHENS a/k/a JANICE RUTH DACUS, deceased, on the 2nd day of January, 2026, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

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.

Brian O'Neil Wright
Personal Representative

Brittany Nicole Smith
Personal Representative

Michael E. Sparkman
Attorney for Petitioners
P.O. Box 1166
Hartselle, Alabama 35640

TO: 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.

DONE this 2nd day of January, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Judge of Probate Cullman County, AL 1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
GARRY DWAYNE MCDONALD, * CASE NO.: PC2025-462
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary, having been granted to the undersigned on the 29th day of December, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Adam J. Cumberworth
Personal Representative

Adam J. Cumberworth
Attorney for Personal Representative
407 2nd Ave SW
106 South Side Square
Huntsville, Al. 35801
(256) 384-5295

TO PUBLISHER: ***THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE***

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

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

Judge of Probate Cullman County, AL 1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
YVONNE A. STERLING, * CASE NO.: PC2025-449
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary, having been granted to the undersigned on the 29th day of December, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Joan R. Anderson
Personal Representative

Benjamin B. Spratling III
Attorney/ Personal Representative
2320 Cahaba Road
Mountain Brook, Al. 35223-1102
(205) 401-2391

TO PUBLISHER: ***THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE***

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In the Matter of the Adoption Petition of)
Christian Tyler James) Case Number: AD 2025-010

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: The Unknown Father of the minor child P.W.G. D.O.B, 6-23-2021 WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN

A PETITION FOR ADOPTION WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA BY CHRISTIAN TYLER JAMES. IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE LAST NOTICE OF PUBLICATION. YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE FILED WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONER, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS IS SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, POST OFFICE BOX 970, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35056.

DONE THIS 18th DAY OF December, 2025.

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

ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER
Attorney for Petitioner
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C.
215 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256)775-4444

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To the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

PLEASE PUBLISH THE ABOVE NOTICE IN SAID PUBLICATION FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS AND SEND PROOF OF PUBLICATION TO JUDGE OF PROBATE OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, POST OFFICE BOX 970, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35056.

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



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Obituary Announcements: Jan. 3-5

Lena Jean Sellers, 86
Funeral service for Lena Jean Sellers, 86, of Cullman will be at 12 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Dr. Delbert Freeman officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Tuesday. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Sellers passed away Dec. 31, 2025, at CRMC. She was born April 8, 1939, to Luther and Viola Bates Freeman. She was a member of Sulphur Springs Baptist Church and served as a caregiver for many years. She was a loving mother and grandmother. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Roy Sellers and a grandson, Christian Sellers. Survivors include her son, Greg Sellers; grandson, Jason (Emily) Sellers; great-granddaughter, Emma Sellers; sister, Lillian Ponder; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Garry Randall Hayes, 70
Funeral Service for Garry Randall Hayes, age 70 of Decatur, will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, at Thompson Chapel Assembly of God; burial at Thompson Chapel Assembly of God. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, at Thompson Chapel Assembly of God. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Hayes passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2025, at Falkville Health and Rehab. He was born March 5, 1955, to Clay Hayes and Marzelle Mims Hayes. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Sharon Hayes; great grandchild, Grayson Hayes; sisters, Mary Newman, Betty Robinson, JoAna Ricks, Ruby Harding and Jane Gore; brothers, Frank Hayes, Robert Hayes and Howard Hayes. Survivors include his wife, Pat Hayes; sons, Tony Hayes (Jennifer) and Terry Hayes (Angela); step-daughter, Brandy Andazola; grandchildren, Treylon Hayes (Brooke), Cainan Hayes (Brookann), Hunter Hayes, Jasmine Bradley (Timothy) and Emilee Hayes; great grandchildren, Kaelynn Hayes, Kamari Bradley, Kehlnai Bradley and Kacen Hayes; brother, Harry Hayes; sister, Peggy Crawford and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Courtney Holmes Ballenger Lynn, 39
Funeral services for Courtney Holmes Ballenger Lynn, 39, of Cullman were at 1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed the service at Hopewell Cemetery. The family welcomed friends for visitation from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 4, at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Lynn was born on Feb. 28, 1986, in Cullman. She passed away on Dec. 30, 2025, at Cullman Regional Medical Center in Cullman. A loving daughter to her mother | Courtney was many things – A sister, a daughter, a mother, a lover and a fighter. To those who knew her, she was a woman with a beautiful, extraordinary soul. Some might describe her as a strong or outspoken person while others saw her as gentle and deeply loving. Trying to put her in a box, define her, or label her as one thing was never easy because she was so complexed and exceeded more than any expectation placed on her. Though she has great depth, she also found joy in life's simple things like playing her guitar, collecting plants, tending to her chickens and capturing moments through photography. Above all, her greatest joy came from spending time with her children. Talking to Courtney, you could instantly tell how proud she was of her kids. She marveled at their achievements and any conversation she could relate back to them. She relished in being a mother and did it with grace always ready to offer advice, lend an ear, or help pick up the pieces when life felt broken. She had the brightest smile in any room she ever walked in and a contagious laugh that could draw in crowds. Her presence drew people in and for so many she was a shoulder to cry on, a source of comfort and a symbol of strength. By being herself, her brilliance and beauty radiated – inside and out – through everything she did and every life she touched. She was a free spirit, a Gypsy soul. - Karli Jo Survivors include her mother, Carrlon Holmes; children, Karli Jo, Jaxton Wade, Addi June; siblings, Camden Holmes (Katie), Caleb Holmes (Kayla); nieces & nephews, Brantley, Coty, Rori, Corah, Greysen; the fathers of her children, Justin Ballenger and Dalton Lynn; and a host of aunts, uncles, and cousins. Mrs. Lynn was preceded in death by her father, Wade Holmes; grandparents, Melba and Doug Holmes, Evon and Estelle Rowe; aunts, Ceci Sheppard and Rhonda Cornell. Serving as pallbearers will be Justin Ballenger, Dalton Lynn, Camden Holmes, Jaxton Lynn, Dustin Kelso and Brandon Robinson.

Billy Charles McCravy, 94
Funeral Service for Billy Charles McCravy, age 94 of Vinemont, were at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, with Jacob Watts and Randy Roberts officiating. Burial was at Macedonia Baptist Cemetery in Battleground, with Gary Carter officiating graveside service. Visitation was held from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. McCravy passed away on Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. He was born Saturday, Oct. 17, 1931, to Loyd Cleveland McCravy and Flora Oldacre McCravy. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Margie (Joe) Mullins, Katie (Sonny) Hankins; brothers, Phillip McCravy and Larry McCravy. Survivors include his wife of seventy-two years, Vernell McCravy; four children, Charles (Cindy) McCravy, Angie (Larry) Watts, Danny (Jean) McCravy, Jada (Tommy) Seymore; grandchildren, Kevin McCravy, Brandon McCravy, Timothy (Allyson) Watts, Jacob (Heather) Watts, Lee McCravy, Judson McCravy, Hannah McCravy, Jackson (Caitlyn) Seymore, Lauren Seymore; great- grandchildren, Trey McCravy, Preston McCravy, Garet McCravy, Caleb Watts, Brody Watts, Georgia McCravy, Laney McCravy, Heidi McCravy, Harper Seymore, and baby boy on the way, Hudson Seymore; a host of nieces and nephews, cousins, and family and friends. Serving as pallbearers will be Mr. McCravy's grandsons. Serving as honorary pallbearers will be the deacons of Macedonia Baptist Church. Mr. McCravy served in the United States Air Force. He had retired from the Lurleen B. Wallace Developmental Center in Decatur Alabama, where he was a Plant Maintenance Engineer. He also served as a deacon at Macedonia Baptist Church for over sixty-four years. He served with the Battleground Volunteer Fire Department for over forty-six years and was a charter member of this organization. He loved the Lord, his family, and his church family. He also loved his numerous trips to the Smoky Mountains.

Vickie Lynn Goodwin, 65
Memorial Service for Vickie Lynn Goodwin, age 65 of Bremen, will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2026, at Union Grove Baptist Church. Mrs. Goodwin passed away on Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, at her residence. She was born Dec. 6, 1960, to Paul Brown and Genora Brown. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Mike Goodwin & grandparents, Hester and Judd Brown. Survivors include her children, Jennifer Rollo and Brandon Rollo; sister, Holly Woodard (Daron); grandchildren, Dakota Johns, Brianna Rollo, Hannah Rollo Myers, Nick Rollo, Sofie Woodard and her best friend, Peggy Quartieri.

Roger Park Bolton, 91
Roger Park Bolton, died peacefully at his home on Jan. 3, 2026, in Cullman, Alabama. He was born Feb. 14, 1934, in Monroe, Georgia. Mr. Bolton moved to Atlanta as a young boy. He excelled in school and sports, later playing on Georgia Tech's basketball and baseball teams. He graduated from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, and then obtained his Masters from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. In 1958 he met the love of his life, Jane Matthews. They married in 1962. On Jan. 27 they would've celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. During his life Mr. Bolton worked as a pastor, author, counselor, college recruiter and health care executive. Survivors include his wife, Jane Bolton; three children, Julie Bolton (Terry) Spradlin, David (Andi) Bolton, Karen Bolton (Mike) Slane; grandchildren, Cameron (Roxane) Slane, Connor (Rebecca) Slane, Jackson Spradlin, Hannah Spradlin, Blake Spradlin, Olivia Bolton, and Ashlee Bolton; a host of nieces and nephews, cousins, and family and friends. Arrangements to be made at a later date.

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.

Hanceville Funeral Home
100 Michelle Street Northwest,
Hanceville, Alabama 35077
(256) 352-3130

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THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Decia McClure of Cullman named to Northwest President's List

Andrew Dale
Contributor

SENATOBIA, Miss. — Decia McClure of Cullman has been named to the Northwest Mississippi Community College President's List for the fall 2025 semester.

Included on the list are full-time students who completed the semester with a grade point average of 3.75 to 4.0.

Northwest Mississippi Community College is a public, two-year institution primarily serving 11 counties in Northwest Mississippi.

For more information visit www.northwestms.edu.

Local students named to Jax State fall 2025 President's, Dean's Lists

Josh Underwood
Contributor

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. — Nearly 1,200 students were named to the President's List at Jacksonville State University for their outstanding academic performance in fall 2025.

To be named to the President's List, students must earn a perfect 4.0 GPA for the semester while completing at least 12 hours of GPA course credit.

Local students named to the list include:

- Brenton Agee of Cullman
- Drake Bannister of Arab
- Rudi Barnette of Cullman
- Ryan Fannell of Cullman
- Skylar Gandy of Falkville
- Lindzee Hamel of Cullman
- Gracie Hopkins of Arab
- Gunter Isom of Arab
- Chinetta Maze of Arab
- Robert Pitts of Holly Pond
- Josie Puccio of Arab
- Amanda Rist of Arley
- Roberto Robles-Martinez of Hanceville
- Bethany Sandlin of Cullman
- Allie Sartin of Cullman
- Jonathan Zepedatrejo of Cullman

More than 1,400 students have been named to the Dean's List for their outstanding academic performance at Jacksonville State University in fall 2025.

To be named to the Dean's List, students must earn a 3.5-3.99 GPA for the semester while completing at least 12 GPA hours of course credit.

Local students named to the list include:

- Kathleen Brooks of Cullman
- Andrew Carroll of Arab
- Kinley Coots of Falkville
- William Drake of Cullman
- Paige Holcomb of Vinemont
- Lindsey Hyde of Cullman
- Callie Kirkland of Arab
- Alexis McCormick of Cullman
- Jamie Mezick of Cullman
- Heather Sharpe of Falkville
- Emma Stewart of Arab
- James Thompson of Bremen
- Arlin Valentin-Arreguin of Arab
- Jonathan Wright of Cullman

McKenzee Gregory of Hanceville named to Belhaven University fall 2025 President's List

David Sprayberry
Contributor

JACKSON, Miss. — Congratulations to Belhaven University student McKenzee Gregory, of Hanceville, AL on being named to the Belhaven University Fall 2025 President's List.

Gregory is among a select number of students named to the President's List. To be eligible for the President's List, a student must achieve a 4.0 grade point average while taking a full course load of at least 12 semester hours.

Cullman's Walter Adams named to Marion Military Institute President's List

Marietta Holmes
Contributor

MARION, Ala. — College student Walter Adams of Cullman, a Saint Bernard Preparatory School graduate, completed the Marion Military Institute fall 2025 semester on the college's President's List. This academic achievement requires a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Educating leaders since 1842, and a proud member of the Alabama Community College System, MMI enrolls a diverse population of both civilian and military-track students in an immersive leadership environment.

Joppa's Zachary Haynes named to Columbia College fall 2025 Dean's List

Sam Fleury
Contributor

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Columbia College recently announced its Dean's List for the fall 2025 Semester (August-December 2025). To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have completed 12 undergraduate credit hours in a 16-week period and achieved a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0-point scale.

Zachary Haynes of Joppa was named to the list. He attended on the Redstone Arsenal campus.

Founded in 1851 in Columbia, Missouri, Columbia College has been helping students advance their lives through higher education for 175 years.

As a private, nonprofit institution, the college takes pride in its small classes, experienced faculty and quality educational programs.

With locations across the country, more than half of which are on military installations, students may enroll in Day, Evening or Online classes.

Columbia College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and maintains a network of nearly 100,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, visit ccis.edu.

