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PD. POL. ADV. GUDGER FOR SENATE
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– SPORTS –

Wallace State men deliver complete road performance in 97-75 win over East Mississippi

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Hope Horses aiming for growth, expanded services

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Local nonprofit Hope Horses, Inc. is in the midst of a capital campaign intended to raise funds for a multiphase expansion that will include the purchase of property, as well as program and facility growth.

Hope Horses has operated for the past 11 years, providing adaptive horseback riding lessons for children and adults with physical, cognitive, social and emotional needs across the region.

Executive Director Kelsey Scott said the organization is the only Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.)–accredited therapeutic riding center in north Alabama. As a result, Hope Horses serves families from outside of Cullman and consistently maintains a waiting list.

The first phase of the expansion focuses on purchasing the property Hope Horses currently leases from the Benedictine » PAGE 5



LAUREN ESTES/CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Bubbles the horse is seen at Hope Horses in Cullman on Feb. 13, 2024.

Cullman County Schools provides update on construction projects



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

At Good Hope Elementary, a new $9 million school is under construction adjacent to Good Hope Primary and is scheduled for completion in fall 2026.

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Schools this week provided an update on several ongoing and upcoming construction projects across the district, with multiple campus improvements progressing on schedule.

At Hanceville Middle School, a $3.3 million addition remains on track for completion in spring 2026. The project includes six new classrooms, a library, meeting space and a tornado shelter.

The addition is designed to address growing enrollment and replace one of the district's oldest school buildings.

Construction is also continuing at the Cullman County Child Development Center, where a $2.4 million expansion is expected to be completed in spring 2026.

The project includes eight new classrooms with restrooms, a storm shelter, improved traffic flow and the replacement of mobile classroom units.

At Good Hope Elementary, a new $9 million school is under construction adjacent to Good Hope Primary and is scheduled for completion in fall 2026.

Once complete, the existing elementary school building will be converted into a ninth-grade academy to provide additional space for Good Hope High School, which is experiencing continued enrollment growth.

"Construction is progressing nicely on these three campuses and we are excited about the impact these will have on the schools and community moving forward," Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette said. » PAGE 3



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

At Hanceville Middle School, a $3.3 million addition remains on track for completion in spring 2026. The project includes six new classrooms, a library, meeting space and a tornado shelter.



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Construction continues at the Cullman County Child Development Center, where a $2.4 million expansion is expected to be completed in spring 2026.

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Jeff Lawson announces candidacy for Cullman County School Board, District 2



CONTRIBUTED

Jeff Lawson » PAGE 2

Chamber hosts State of the State luncheon



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce hosted the State of the State: Legislative Preview Community Luncheon Friday at Stone Bridge Farms. Speakers, from left, Sen. Garlan Gudger, R-Cullman; Rep. Tim Wadsworth, R-Arley; Rep. Cindy Myrex, R-Cullman; and Rep. Heath Allbright, R-Holly Pond, addressed a range of topics, from mental health to education to the lottery and more. Look for a full feature story at www.CullmanTribune.com.

Tyson Foods supports Good Samaritan Health Clinic's mission to deliver health care to the uninsured in Cullman County » PAGE 5

Polar Bear Plunge: Event returns Jan. 31, benefiting Special Olympics of Alabama » PAGE 4

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Jan. 9

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Jan. 9, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Jan. 5
- domestic violence; CR 813
- domestic violence; CR 1224
- theft of property; CR 233
- theft of property; CR 747
- possession of dangerous drugs; CR 709
- theft of property; CR 522
- harassment; Hwy. 69N
- burglary; CR 1422
- harassment; CR 109
- unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle; CR 437

Jan. 6
- harassing communications; CR 1554
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1508
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278W
- theft of property; CR 1422
- burglary; CR 813
- assault; CR 1459
- violation of protection order; CR 1162
- theft of property; CR 105
- possession of controlled substance; CR 1772

Jan. 7
- possession of controlled substance; possession of dangerous drugs; illegal possession of prescription drugs; using false identity; CR 1101
- domestic violence; CR 336
- domestic violence; CR 1660
- assault-menacing; obstruction-governmental operations; domestic violence; CR 233
- domestic violence; CR 1428
- theft of property; CR 998
- theft of property; CR 222
- unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle; CR 1505

ARRESTS

Jan. 5-7

Barbee, Jeffery H.; 30
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – driving while license suspended
- FTA – failure/refusal to display insurance
- FTA – no plainly visible tag
- FTA – speeding-no workers-construction zone

Barger, Lisa K.; 37
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- public intoxication

Bell, Chandler F.; 41
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Bright, John S.; 55
- permitting dogs to run at large

Campbell, Marcellus G.; 18
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Cornelius, Zachary L.; 31
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Fraley, Whitney L.; 25
- family offense-causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Fucci, Leigh H.; 48
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of drug paraphernalia
- BAIL JUMPING 2 – possession of dangerous drugs

Graves, Christopher S.; 42
- assault-aggravated assault family-other weapon

Hansen, Benjamin M.; 26
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Hayes, Lindsey B.; 45
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Holcomb, Anita L.; 43
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Johnson, Trina Y.; 44
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

McCluney, Joseph D.; 41
- possession of methamphetamine

Roaden, Kristie M.; 49
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Smith, Timothy R.; 47
- GJ – sex offense-sexual abuse of a child less than 12 years old

Snow, Vickie J.; 58
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Susskin, Kenya B.; 37
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – public intoxication

Thrasher, Benjamin J.; 29
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance

Whitehead, Charlie A.; 63
- permitting dogs to run at large

Williams, Koty A.; 31
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of dangerous drugs

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Jan. 4
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $149; Hwy. 157

Jan. 8
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '24 Toyota Tacoma; $1,500; CR 222
- harassing communications; person

Jan. 9
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Dripping Springs Rd. NW

ARRESTS

Jan. 7

Carnes, Danelle K.; 50
- GJ – theft of property-1st degree
- GJ – possessing forged instrument-3rd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

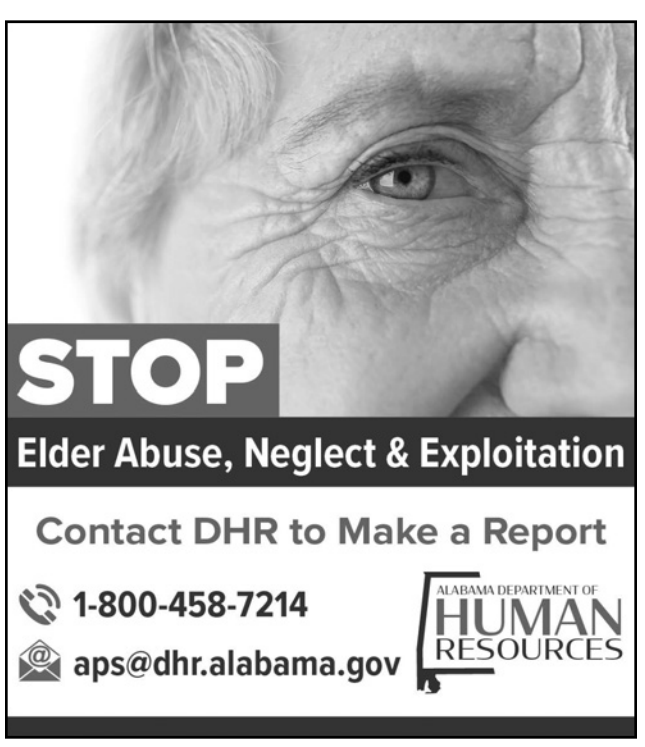
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Lawson (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Jeff Lawson, a Fairview resident and longtime public servant, has announced his candidacy for Cullman County School Board, District 2, which represents the Fairview and Parkside communities. Lawson is currently an officer with the Cullman Police Department.

In an online statement announcing his campaign, Lawson cited his local roots, military service and current work inside local schools as the foundation for his decision to seek the seat.

"I am proud to announce my candidacy for the Cullman County School Board, District 2 (Fairview/Parkside). As a 1993 graduate of Fairview High School, this community is home to me. I have always felt a strong calling to serve others, and that commitment began after high school when I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. I learned the values of discipline, integrity, accountability, and service before self. Those values shape my belief that our schools should be safe, structured environments where students are challenged to grow, educators are supported in their work, and parents are respected as essential partners in education.

"In my current role as a school resource officer, I work every day inside our schools, building relationships with students, staff, and families. This daily experience gives me a clear appreciation for the strong foundation already in place and the importance of working alongside current leadership to strengthen systems and support the people who make our schools successful. I humbly asked for your prayers and your support."

The Cullman County School Board District 2 seat will be decided during the 2026 election cycle.

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

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Cullman Housing Authority's Public Housing waitlist will open for applications

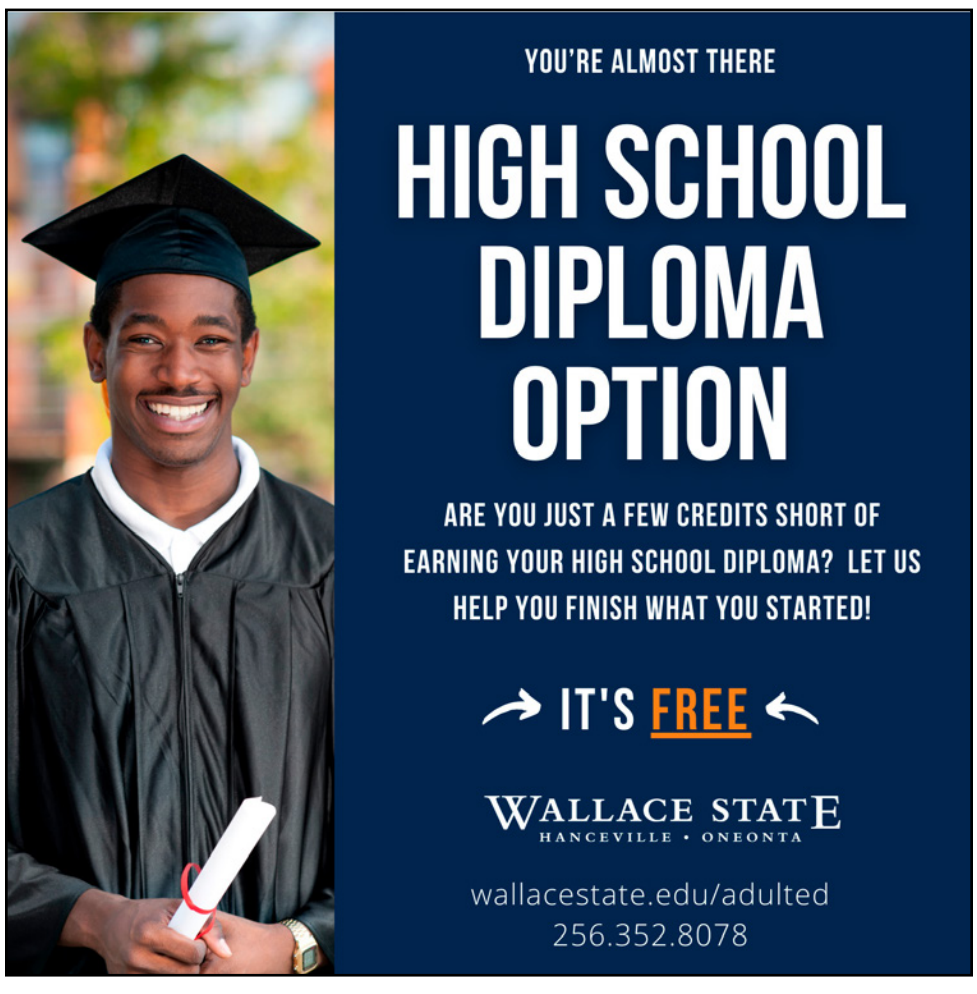
to be picked up at the Administration Building, 408 Cleveland Ave SW, beginning Monday, January 12, 2026, Monday – Thursday of each business week.

The last day to pick up an application will be **Thursday, April 2, 2026.**

All applications must be returned no later than 5:00 pm by **April 23, 2026.**

No documents will be required at this time.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• 256-739-3326
• spiritlifechurchcullman@gmail.com
• FB-Spirit Life Church Cullman
• Saturday, Jan. 10 – 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Indoor yard sale. Proceeds will support the transition houses and our church ministries.
• 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.

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.

Update (from Front)

In addition, Cullman County Schools is preparing for a future groundbreaking ceremony for the new Cullman County STEM Academy, which is expected to take place later this spring.

Pre-K program enrollment signups for Cullman County Schools are scheduled to open Jan. 15.

District officials noted interest in highlighting the role early childhood education plays in preparing students for success throughout their K–12 experience.

LEGALS

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

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PREP BASKETBALL

Holly Pond girls fall to Lawrence County, 39-31

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

MOULTON, Ala. — The Holly Pond Lady Broncos traveled to Moulton to take on the Lawrence County Lady Red Devils in Thursday night basketball action. It was a defensive affair for the entire contest, and a big third quarter by Lawrence County helped them get past Holly Pond, 39-31.

Both teams came out of the gates strong on defense. Sadie Nail knocked down a pair of free throws to put Holly Pond on the scoreboard first, and Milly Huddleston split from the charity stripe to give them an early 3-2 lead. Sadie Nail put in a shot down low to make it 5-2, but Lawrence County went on a 6-0 run to take an 8-5 lead late in the first quarter. Maggie Nail buried a trey from the top of the key to tie the game up at eight going into the second period.

Maggie Nail's second three from the top of the key gave Holly Pond an 11-8 lead, and with 2:46 remaining in the first half, Sadie Nail put in two more free throws to put the Lady Broncos on top, 13-10. The Lady Red Devils scored the final five points of the first half to take a 15-13 lead at the break.

Ava Thomas knocked down a pair from the charity stripe to keep it at a two-point game at 17-15. Lawrence County, though, went on a 10-0 run to stretch their lead to 27-15. Huddleston stopped the bleeding with a short jumper to cut it to 27-17 with 3:47 remaining in the third quarter, but a late basket by the Lady Red Devils gave them a 29-17 lead going into the final quarter.

Maggie Nail banked in a long jumper to cut it to 31-20 with 4:47 remaining in the contest. Later in the fourth, baskets by Thomas and Sadie Nail made it a 33-24 game, but Lawrence County kept them at arm's length the rest of the way, as they would go on to defeat Holly Pond, 39-31.

Sadie Nail and Thomas led the way for Holly Pond with nine points each. Maggie Nail added eight, and Huddleston posted five points.

Wallace State men deliver complete road performance in 97-75 win over East Mississippi

Wallace State Sports Info
Contributor

SCOOBA, Miss. — Wallace State men's basketball turned in one of its most complete performances of the season Tuesday night, pulling away early and never looking back in a convincing 97–75 road victory over East Mississippi.

After the teams were locked in a 19–19 tie midway through the first half, Wallace State seized control with a decisive 21–6 run that shifted momentum firmly in the Lions' favor. A 12–0 spurt during that stretch helped the Lions build a 37–23 advantage, and Wallace continued to apply pressure on both ends of the floor to take a 51–34 lead into halftime.

Depth and ball movement fueled Wallace State's first-half success, as the Lions' bench poured in 29 points before the break. Wallace also capitalized on East Mississippi turnovers, scoring 16 points off miscues while consistently pushing the pace in transition.

Wallace State wasted no time extending the lead after halftime. The Lions closed the first half and opened the second on a combined 10–0 run to push the margin to 56–34. Later in the second half, an 8–0 run stretched the advantage to 75–53, marking Wallace State's largest lead of the night at 22 points.

Offensively, Wallace State was sharp from the perimeter, shooting 46 percent from three-point range (17-of-37), with nine different Lions connecting from beyond the arc. The Lions also knocked down 75 percent of their free throws and shared the ball effectively, recording 23 assists on the night.

Viczavious Madden led Wallace State with 16 points, adding seven rebounds, four assists and two steals in a strong all-around performance. Jaeden Rush followed with 15 points, six rebounds, seven assists and a steal, while Sawyer Griffin added 12 points on efficient shooting.

Tyson Barrett finished with 11 points, six rebounds and a block, and Devan Rush also scored 11 points. Troy Wilson chipped in nine points, Trey Knight added seven points and six assists, and Kylen Clark contributed six points, three assists and two steals.

Austin Davenport was active on the glass, pulling down a team-high 10 rebounds to go with four points, while Kohl Key and Julian King each added three points.

Wallace State also controlled the boards, grabbing 13 offensive rebounds that led to 10 second-chance points.

With balanced scoring, disciplined defense and efficient shooting, the Lions capped the night with a statement road win built on energy, execution and depth.

Wallace State (7-8) will return home for a Saturday matchup with Marion Military at 2 p.m.



JASON CLARK/EAST MISSISSIPPI SPORTS MEDIA

Wallace State guard Jaeden Rush fighting through East Mississippi defender

Plunge (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The annual Polar Bear Plunge will return Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026, inviting residents to brave the cold for a cause at WildWater and the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center (CWAC).

The event is scheduled for 10 a.m. and is free to enter. Optional donations will benefit Special Olympics of Alabama, supporting athletes and programs across the state.

Hosted in partnership with Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism, the Polar Bear Plunge has grown into a winter tradition that reflects Cullman's strong support for community-driven causes.

WildWater General Manager Michael Schwitek said the event's continued growth highlights the community's commitment to Special Olympics.

"This event has become a yearly tradition that reflects our community's support for great causes such as Special Olympics of Alabama," Schwitek said.

"Since partnering with Special Olympics a few years ago, we have seen the event grow exponentially, showing how much our community cares about helping others."

Schwitek said keeping the event free has remained a priority to ensure broad participation.

"As with most events, we want everyone in the community to be able to participate without any extra cost," he said.

"We only encourage those who are able to donate."

He said the partnership with Special Olympics is central to the event's purpose.

"The partnership is really the heart behind the entire event, as these nationwide Plunge events have been directly correlated with Special Olympics for over 25 years," Schwitek said.

Participation has steadily increased in recent years, with organizers hoping to build on that momentum in 2026.

"Last year we grew to nearly 150 participants and hope to see that number grow again this year," he said.

Schwitek said events like the Polar Bear Plunge play a meaningful role in supporting athletes across Alabama.

"It serves as a highly visible and exciting way to engage our community and raise substantial funds and has become a staple fundraiser for Special Olympics programs across the state of Alabama," he said.

Facilities such as WildWater and the CWAC help make large-scale community events possible.

"It is one of our main priorities to plan, provide spaces, coordinate and host every aspect of community events such as this throughout the year," Schwitek said.

For those considering participating for the first time, Schwitek offered simple encouragement.

"It is an exhilarating experience for a good cause that give you bragging rights and great photo ops," he said.

New this year, organizers will introduce a costume contest for participants who choose to take the plunge in costume. The winner will receive a two-pack of daily tickets to WildWater.

Organizers shared online, "TWO names will be drawn from the participants who take the plunge!

"One winner will receive a One-Year Family Membership to Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center and one winner will receive a 4-Pack of 2026 Season Passes to WildWater! You MUST be present to win! The event is FREE to enter, and we are accepting optional donations for our partner, Special Olympics!"

Register now at https://tinyurl.com/4utenj6a. To donate to Special Olympics, visit https://tinyurl.com/58mrk3ur.

Get additional event information at www.facebook.com/WildWaterCullman. WildWater is located at 1707 Main Ave. SW, Cullman.

To donate to Special Olympics, visit https://tinyurl.com/58mrk3ur.





Shirley Burden Public Library partners with local boxing club for free introductory boxing class – Jan. 28

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Shirley Burden Public Library is pairing with a former professional boxer to host a free introductory boxing class on Wednesday, Jan. 28, from 10-11 a.m. at the Sweet Science Boxing Club.

The class will be led by Spencer Swope, also known as "Smokin' Swopey," a former professional boxer and owner of Sweet Science Boxing Club, a new business located directly across the street from the library.

The session is designed as an introduction to boxing and is geared toward ages 8 and up, with a particular emphasis on teenagers.

Participants are asked to meet at the library before walking together to the boxing studio and should arrive dressed for a workout.

Library Manager Teresa Rivera said the class is designed to introduce kids and teens to boxing in a positive, structured way while offering both physical and mental benefits.

"This will be an introductory boxing class focused on discipline and effective stress reducing through an anxiety-relieving workout. They will learn a great form of self-defense," Rivera said.

"We hope to educate children how to protect themselves, get physical in today's electronic age and just to have old-fashioned fun."

Rivera said the class also reflects the library's goal of expanding its programming and strengthening partnerships with local businesses.

"For 2026 planning, we are looking to partner with local Hanceville businesses with different events in order to give them exposure as well as the library," she said.

"We're offering a variety of programs beyond our Wednesday children's program, and this boxing class is a great example of that."

While the Jan. 28 session is free, registration is required, with more than 15 children already signed up. Those interested in participating must register by calling the library.

Swope also offers ongoing group classes and private lessons at his gym for individuals who wish to continue boxing training beyond the introductory session.

For more information or to register, contact the Shirley Burden Public Library at 256-352-0685.

The library is open Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (closed from noon-1 p.m.) and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The library is located at 201 Commercial St., Hanceville, AL.

For additional information on the Sweet Science Boxing Club and all it has to offer, contact Spencer Swope at 205-441-4452 or sswope@ewtn.com.

Good Samaritan (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Good Samaritan Health Clinic announces a $28,350 grant from Tyson Foods.

This investment will allow Good Samaritan Health Clinic to continue its mission to deliver sustainable, long-term care and all-around wellness to the uninsured members of-Cullman County.

"We are grateful and thrilled to receive this generous support from Tyson Foods," said Jolanda Hutson, executive director.

"Partnerships like this make all the difference in our ability to provide compassionate, high-quality care to those who otherwise could not afford it.

"Tyson's investment helps ensure the sustainability of our mission and strengthens our community's overall health."

The funding will help Good Samaritan Health Clinic continue offering essential medical services, medications, health education and preventive care to individuals without access to health insurance.

One in five adult residents in Cullman County are uninsured, highlighting the ongoing need for accessible and affordable health care options. Last calendar year, the clinic served 545 unduplicated patients, provided care for 3,590 patient visits and dispensed 19,872 prescriptions valued at $3.9 million.

For more information about Good Samaritan, visit www.goodsamaritancullman.com.

Hope Horses (from Front)

Sisters, securing the land and facilities for future operations.

Scott said ownership will provide stability for families, donors and the organization's long-term mission.

Phase two includes program and facility growth, allowing Hope Horses to serve more participants.

Plans include expanding adaptive riding lessons, adding field trips and camps, partnering with schools for equine-assisted learning opportunities and offering onsite physical therapy through a certified hippotherapist.

In addition, more barns, training and evaluation spaces, expanded pastureland and hay storage are planned, along with the addition of more horses and staff.

Hope Horses currently serves about 30 riders weekly with five horses and maintains a waiting list of more than 10 participants.

The expansion is projected to shorten wait times and increase overall capacity, though Scott said demand will remain high.

Those interested in supporting the project are encouraged to schedule a facility tour to learn more about the program and its impact. Scott emphasized that Hope Horses is community-driven, relying on staff, volunteers, donors and local advocates to sustain and grow its services.

Hope Horses, Inc. is located at 1301 Convent Road NE Cullman, AL 35055 and can be contacted at 256-507-4088.

Learn more at www.facebook.com/hopehorsesinc or www.hopehorsesinc.com.

Read more about the Grow Hope Campaign at www.hopehorsesinc.com/about-1-1.

From the Hope Horses website:

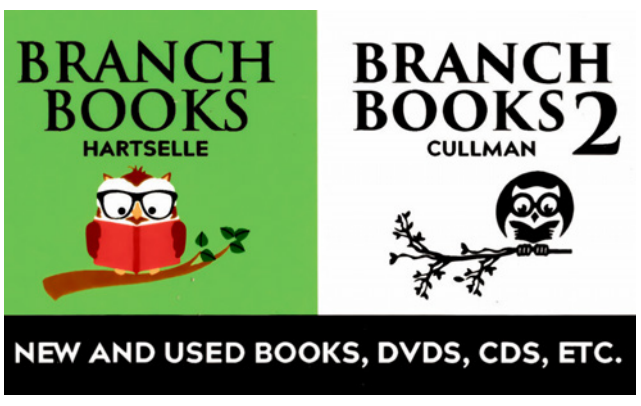
"Hope Horses, Inc. is a nonprofit therapeutic riding center dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with special needs through equine-assisted activities.

"Located in Cullman, Alabama, we serve children and adults with physical, cognitive, and emotional challenges, creating a safe, empowering space where riders build strength, confidence, and connection.

"Every session is guided by certified instructors, trained volunteers, and the unique bond between horse and human. For many of our riders, this isn't just a riding session, it's their favorite place to be."













Youth art contest invites Cullman Housing Authority residents to share 'What Home Means to Me'

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Youth artists who live in households or receive housing-related services managed by the Cullman Housing Authority are invited to take part in the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) "What Home Means to Me" poster contest.

The contest is open to youth ages 5–18 and is part of a national program sponsored by NAHRO.

Since 2008, the competition has highlighted the artwork of children living in affordable housing, encouraging young artists to express what home means to them through original poster designs.

The contest is conducted in multiple rounds, beginning at the regional level.

A total of 24 regional winners advance to the national competition, where 12 national winners are selected.

National winners have their artwork featured in NAHRO's "What Home Means to Me" calendar the following year.

Select winners also receive cash prizes and a trip to Washington, D.C.

Cullman Housing Authority officials encourage eligible youth and families interested in participating to visit the Cullman Housing Authority office at 408 Cleveland Ave. SW, Cullman, or call 256-734-6171 for complete contest guidelines and submission deadlines.

LEGALS

Pursuant to Alabama Code 32-13-1, Doug Legg will offer for sale at Public Auction the following vehicles on:

Date: February 28, 2026

Time: 5:00 A.M.

Location: 110 Co Rd 525 Hanceville, AL 35077

1976	Ford Mustang-White	VIN#6F04Y231009
1978	Ford Mustang-Black	VIN#8F03F240847
1969	Ford Bronco-Blue	VIN#K9169F881666
1946	Chevrolet Truck-Black	VIN# NONE
T595	Skid Steer	VIN# NONE

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.

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2025-044

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JOHN WESLEY GEORGE and TAYLOR DUDLEY GEORGE.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: UNKNOWN FATHER of T.S.G., DOB 12/09/2025

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of T.S.G., a minor child born December 9, 2025, to Tracy Leann Spurgeon was filed on the 9th day of December, 2025, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners John Wesley George and Taylor Dudley George. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 29th day of December, 2025.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
Attorneys for Petitioners
P.O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
256-734-4721

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF:)
)
LYNNE G. BATES,) **CASE NO. PC-2025-** 451
)
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY of said deceased having been granted to **LYNN BROCKMAN ELLIS** on the 29th day of December, 2025 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Court Judge of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within six months after the grant of Letters or within five months from the first publication of this notice, whichever is the latter to occur or the same will be barred.

/s/Lynn Brockman Ellis
Lynn Brockman Ellis, Personal Representative of the Estate of Lynne G. Bates

Seth B. Thompson, Attorney for Petitioner Lynn Brockman Ellis

Of Counsel:

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

TO THE PUBLISHER OF THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
ELEANOR VEIGL BOIKE, CASE NO. :PC2025-356
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to **ROSE BOIKE SMITH**, as Personal Representative of the Estate of **ELEANOR VEIGL BOIKE**, deceased, on the 29th day of December, 2025 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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.

Rose Boike Smith
ROSE BOIKE SMITH
Personal Representative

Annette Irons-Parker
Annette Irons-Parker
Attorney for Personal Representative
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C. ATTORNEYS
215 Main Avenue S.W.
Cullman, AL 35055
256-775-4444

TO: The Publisher of **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
Judge of Probate Cullman County

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
ELMA JOYCE VANMETRE, CASE NO. : PC2025-450
Deceased.

Letters Testamentary of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 7th day of January, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 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.

TYLER ANDREW LINDSEY
Annette Irons-Parker
ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER (IRO003)
Attorney for Personal Representative
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C. ATTORNEYS
215 Main Avenue, Southwest
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256-775-4444
parkerandparker@bellsouth.net

To: Publisher of **THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE**

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

Tammy Brown
Honorable Tammy Brown
Probate Judge

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

STATE OF ALABAMA,
CULLMAN COUNTY.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by **BBJ Property, LLC, an Alabama limited liability company,** to **First National Bank**, dated May 31, 2023, which mortgage appears of record in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, at Mortgage Book 2051, Page 636; and a second mortgage executed by **BBJ Property, LLC, an Alabama limited liability company,** to **First National Bank**, dated May 2, 2024, which mortgage appears of record in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, at Mortgage Book 2083, Page 108; and the undersigned **First National Bank**, as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Cullman County, Alabama, on January 27, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A tract or parcel of land containing 3.0 acres of land, more or less and being a part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 11 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 11, having an Alabama State Plane, West Zone, NAD83 coordinate value of N.1494143.59', E.
2141672.39, and run North 89 Degrees 11 minutes 39 seconds West (bearing based on AL State Plane, West Zone, NAD83, Grid), and run along the North Section line, a distance of 125.46 feet to a set rebar; thence South 17 degrees 42 minutes 12 seconds East, a distance of 323.42 feet to a found pipe marking the Northeast corner of the Cullman Electric Co-Op Tract as recorded in Deed Book 399, Page 263 in the Office of the Judge of Probate Cullman County, Alabama; thence South 46 degrees 09 minutes 06 seconds East, a distance of 200.18 feet to a found pipe marking the Southeast corner of said tract, same being on the Northerly right of way line of County Road No. 222; thence North 44 degrees 09 minutes 43 seconds East, and run along said right of way line, a distance of 400.46 feet to a set rebar marking the Southeast corner of that certain tract as recorded in Deed book 580, Page 918; thence North 89 degrees 11 minutes 38 seconds West, a distance of 210.00 feet to a set rebar marking the Southwest corner of said tract; thence North 44 degrees 22 minutes 36 seconds east, a distance of 210.00 feet to a set rebar marking the Northwest corner of said tract and being on the North line of Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 89 degrees 11 minutes 39 seconds West, a distance of 333.17 feet to a point of beginning. Subject to any rights of way and / or easements of record.

Less and Except:

A tract of land containing 1.08 acres, more or less, lying in the NE¼ of the NW¼ and the NW¼ of the NE¼ of Section 11, Township 11 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama, being more particularly described as follows: beginning at the Northeast corner of NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 11 having an Alabama State Plane West Zone Coordinate of N:1494143.53, E:2141672.34, thence North 89 Degrees 11 minutes 27 seconds West along the Northerly boundary of the NE ¼ of the NW¼ for 125.46 feet to a set capped rebar; thence South 17 Degrees 42 minutes 12 seconds East passing a set capped reference rebar 276.61 feet for a total distance of 281.63 feet to the centerline of an existing ditch; thence along the centerline of said ditch the following bearings and distances, North 41 Degrees 34 minutes 24 seconds East for 53.77 feet, North 42 Degrees 41 minutes 47 seconds East for 72.52 feet, North 42 Degrees 07 minutes 46 seconds East for 20.18 feet, North 47 Degrees 43 minutes 25 seconds East for 132.74 feet, North 65 Degrees 00 minutes 56 seconds East for 24.37 feet, North 68 Degrees 06 minutes 03 seconds East for 20.88 feet, North 60 Degrees 53 minutes 25 seconds East for 39.87 feet, North 34 Degrees 04 minutes 02 seconds East for 17.90 feet, North 22 Degrees 06 minutes 43 seconds East for 13.89 feet to the intersection of said ditch and the Northerly boundary of the NW ¼ of the NE¼; thence North 89 Degrees 10 minutes 49 seconds West along the Northerly boundary of the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ passing a set capped reference rebar at 2.09 feet for a total distance of 248.31 feet back to the point of beginning, said tract of land being subject to any existing easements or rights of way, both recorded and unrecorded. All capped rebars are ½" rebars stamped Wilhite PLS 21785 unless noted otherwise.

Also and subject to an ingress/egress easement being 30 feet in width and being more particularly described as follows; Commencing at the Northeast corner of the NE ¼ of the NW¼ of Section 11 having an Alabama State Plane West Zone Coordinate of N: 1494143.53, E:2141672.34, thence South 89 Degrees 10 minutes 49 seconds East along the Northerly boundary of the NW¼ of the NE ¼ for 248.31 feet to the intersection of said Northerly boundary and the centerline of an existing ditch said point being the point of beginning; thence continue South 89 Degrees 10 minutes 49 seconds East along the Northerly boundary of the NW 1/4 of the NE ¼ for 293.80 feet to the intersection of said Northerly boundary and the Westerly right of way margin of County Road 222; thence South 44 Degrees 10 minutes 39 seconds West along the Westerly right of way margin of said road for 41.26 feet; thence North 89 Degrees 10 minutes 49 seconds West parallel with the Northerly boundary of the NW¼ of the NE ¼ for 283.96 feet to the centerline of an existing ditch; thence North 60 Degrees 53 minutes 25 seconds East along the centerline of said ditch for 4.19 feet; thence North 34 Degrees 04 minutes 02 seconds East along the centerline of said ditch for 17.90 feet; thence North 22 Degrees 06 minutes 43 seconds East along the centerline of said ditch for 13.89 feet back to the point of beginning, Said tract of land being subject to any existing easements or rights of way, both recorded and unrecorded.

Property Address: 4944 County Road 222, Cullman, AL 35057

This property will be sold on an "as-is, where-is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate of the County where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. 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. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The purchase price must be paid in certified funds by close of business on the date of sale at the Law Office of Bland, Harris & McClellan, P.C. at the address indicated below. Bland, Harris & McClellan, P.C. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
By: Nancy F. McClellan, Attorney for First National Bank
401 Second Avenue, SW, Cullman, AL 35055 (256) 734-4040

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of that mortgage executed on July 2, 2021 by Wesley Dunn, spouse of Jaime Dunn and Jaime Dunn spouse of Wesley Dunn, to EvaBank, which said mortgage is recorded in Book MTG 1971, Page 656 in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama, and default continuing, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the following described property will be sold at public outcry, for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the Courthouse door of said County, in Cullman, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on January 23, 2026:

Lot 11, in Muscadine Point Subdivision, as shown by the recorded plat thereof in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, in Map Book 3, Page 225.

LESS AND EXCEPT: A parcel of land located in Lot 11 of Muscadine Point Subdivision (Map Book 3, Page 225) recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, and located in part of the SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 22, Township 11 South, Range 05 West, Cullman County, Alabama, and being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at the SE corner of Lot 11 thence N 6°53'19" W for a distance of 19.55 feet; thence S 59°22'34" W 229.74 feet to a point on the 510 contour of Lewis Smith Lake; thence along the meanderings of said 510 contour line in a southerly direction 19 feet, more or less, to a appoint 110.17 feet from the NW corner of Lot 11; thence northeasterly 229 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

Including a 1989 Cavalier mobile home located thereon.

Property Address: County Road 855, Cullman, AL 35059

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and cost of foreclosure.

EvaBank, Mortgagee
Thomas W. Russell
Attorney for Mortgagee
2915 Clairmont Ave. S
Birmingham, Alabama 35205
The Cullman Tribune-January 3, 10, 17, 2026

Page 1 of 1

STATE OF ALABAMA)
)
COUNTY OF LIMESTONE)

IN THE PROBATE COURT
CASE NO.: AD2025-040

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF
SHANIKA SHANTEL FARRIS
FOR THE ADOPTION OF J.G.T., A MINOR

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: Any unknown legal, natural, and/or putative father of J.G.T., whose whereabouts are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of J.G.T. who was born to Amanda Mae McCurry on or about the 29th day of September, 2024, in Cullman, Cullman County, Alabama, has been filed in said Court by SHANIKA SHANTEL FARRIS, Petitioner, and that the 12th day of March, 2026, at 9:00 o'clock A .m. has been set for a hearing on the same at the Limestone County Probate Judge's Office on the Second Floor of the Limestone County Courthouse-Annex in Athens, Alabama. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response no later than (30) days of the last date of publication with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court, whose address is 100 S. Clinton Street, Suite D, Athens, Alabama 35611.

DONE THIS THE 30th day of December, 2025.

ANNE G. BURROWS, SAR007
Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC
102 South Jefferson Street
Athens, Alabama 35611
Telephone: (256) 232-0202
Fax: (256) 233-2407
E-Mail: aburrows@handfirm.com

Attorney for Petitioner

STATE OF ALABAMA,
CULLMAN COUNTY.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by **BB Jones Properties, LLC, an Alabama limited liability company,** to **First National Bank**, dated May 31, 2023, which mortgage appears of record in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, at Mortgage Book 2051, Page 632; and the undersigned **First National Bank**, as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Cullman County, Alabama, on January 27, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Commence at the point of intersection of the West right-of-way line of Cullman-Trimble Road with North line of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 11, Range 4 West and go West along the Quarter Quarter Section line 210 feet then go South (on line parallel to road right-of-way) 210 feet; then go East (on line parallel to North line of Quarter Quarter section) 210 feet; to point on right-of-way and then go North 210 feet to the point of beginning containing 1 acre.

Property Address: 4896 County Road 222, Cullman, AL 35057

This property will be sold on an "as-is, where-is" basis, subject to any easements, encumbrances, and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of the Office of the Judge of Probate of the County where the above-described property is situated. This property will be sold without warranty or recourse, expressed or implied as to title, use and/or enjoyment and will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. 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. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The purchase price must be paid in certified funds by close of business on the date of sale at the Law Office of Bland, Harris & McClellan, P.C. at the address indicated below. Bland, Harris & McClellan, P.C. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
By: Nancy F. McClellan, Attorney for First National Bank
401 Second Avenue, SW, Cullman, AL 35055 (256) 734-4040

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 Christopher W Wilks and Ariel L Wilks, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for FirstBank, its successors and assigns dated August 6, 2019; said mortgage being recorded on August 9, 2019 in Deed Book 1886, Page 129 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to FirstBank by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2105, Page 232 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, FirstBank, 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 February 5, 2026 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

All that part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 23, Township 9 South, Range 1 West, Cullman County, Alabama, more particularly described as: Commencing at the Southwest corner of said Section 23; thence N 0°36'57" E 180 feet; thence S 89°00' E 938.58 feet to an iron set at an existing agreed fence corner, which is the point of beginning of the property herein conveyed; thence N 9°12'46" W 165.08 feet to an existing nail; thence N 84°34'38" E 200.74 feet to the West right of way of County Road 1718; thence S 4°52'02" E along said right of way to an existing agreed upon 3" iron; thence N 89°31'55" W along an agreed line 189.04 feet to the true point of beginning.

Subject to right of way for County Road 1718, including that certain right of way for public road recorded in Deed Book 480, Page 245.

Said property is commonly known as **4515 County Road 1718, Holly Pond, AL 35083**.

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 29, 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.

FIRSTBANK
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 25-07753AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
01/03/2026,01/10/2026,01/17/2026

25-07753AL

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

New beginnings can bring new endings

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



We have lost another old friend. Not to be morbid, but I've come to that age in life where I begin each new year wondering who won't make it through the year. I'm afraid I've come to that point when I have more family in Heaven than I do on Earth. I begin each new year by praying that I and mine will make it through another one. People often say that nothing lasts forever. That is true...nothing last forever, at least not in this world, but this world and its things is not all there is.

As children, we really don't think we will live forever; maybe because we really don't think about it at all. We are too caught up in living at that stage to be concerned about dying.

One old friend I've thought would never die is a thing...the newspaper. I'm not sure how much longer I will write this column, mainly because I'm not sure how much longer there will be newspapers.

We've had newspapers almost as long as we've been a nation. Ben Franklin and his brother James printed and published one of our first. Sadly, we've lost over 3,200 print newspapers in the last 25 years. Several of the newspapers that once carried my columns have now closed their doors.

Last week, one of our nation's major newspapers printed its last. The old friend we lost was The Atlanta Journal Constitution. While an electronic or computer edition of that paper will continue, the giant newsprint edition, which began its run 157 years ago, came to an end last week. Back when I lived in Marietta, Georgia, I received that historic paper each day. I especially enjoyed the Sunday edition. Sometimes it almost took me until the next Sunday's copy landed in my driveway to read it all. A friend of mine had to give up his paper route after pulling a bicep while hurling that massive paper! It could crack your concrete driveway!

Many other print newspapers that I have read through the years, such as The Birmingham Post-Herald and The Birmingham News, are now gone, too.

The good news is that most newspapers that have stopped printing a paper newspaper do have an online newspaper. Some say this is much better. Perhaps so, but it still saddens me. I guess it is because I am old, or at least old school. I am not above reading a book or a newspaper online, but I prefer both on paper. I love to hold a book in my hands. I love to lie in the floor and read a newspaper that is spread out in front of me. Of course, I do find it harder to get back up from the floor these days!

My current hometown newspaper, The Opelika-Auburn News, does still have a print edition three days a week. It is also available online.

While I have written newspaper columns periodically for more than 40 years, I am thankful to The Opelika-Auburn News for giving me my first weekly column. This month I begin my 13th year in that newspaper. Since then, others across Alabama and Georgia, including my native hometowns of Rainsville and Fort Payne, have picked up my column. Many of those newspapers are small-town weekly papers. They seem to be surviving somewhat better than many of the larger ones.

Thank you to each publisher for this opportunity. Thank you to each reader who buys and reads what we have written. Please don't let our newspapers be another national treasure we lose.

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

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Jan. 10, 1946

From the files of Jan. 10, 1946

Teen Age "Town Talk"
Well, we have started back to school and are having exams.

All the boys and girls have been going to bed early, as we have to be at school at 8:00 o'clock every morning.

The faculty has decided to give us this week for study and start exams the latter part of next week.

Several of the boys are leaving this week for the Army and Navy. A few of them are: Junior Brannon, Clyde Scott, Edward Cook.

Hancel McElroy has been promoted to top sergeant and is expected home this month with a discharge.

C.C.H.S. basketball team is undefeated so far this season. We play Hartselle Friday night at 7 o'clock there. Be on hand to help support our teams.

The school has a new athletic director, Coach Sullins, who has started a junior basketball team which practices the first home-room period. They will play in the tournament this year.

Be back next week.

— **"The Eyes and Ears of Cullman High"**

Good Hope News
Mrs. Nolan Schlicting of Foley is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Hathcock.

Evelyn Reid has been visiting in Birmingham after having her tonsils removed.

Edward Hathcock and Jeannie Hathcock have been visiting relatives in Mobile.

T-4 Columbus N. Hendrix has arrived home with his discharge after serving in the armed forces two years.

1st Lt. Glenn R. Reid has arrived home with a discharge after serving in the armed forces four and one-half years.

Mr. and Mrs. George Henke and son, George William, and Sweetie Schaeffel spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Reid.

Mr. and Mrs. Brock Hendrix and girls were the Sunday guests of Mrs. H. M. Hendrix.

Viola Young spent Thursday night with Addie Reid.

1st Lt. and Mrs. Glenn Reid and daughter, Mary Glenn, and son, Bennie, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Reid.

Hanceville Happenings
By HAZEL CARSTENSEN

Mr. and Mrs. Howard K. Gibbs and Mrs. Fred Gibbs of Birmingham were the Sunday guests of Mrs. Carter Gibbs and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gates and Evelyn Dungey of Ardmore were the guests of Rev. and Mrs. Hargrove last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Kelton and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kelton of Birmingham spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Claude Thigpen.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Dunlap and Mr. and Mrs. Royce Dunlap spent Friday in Birmingham.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Green and Levann Sanders spent Friday in Birmingham.

Miss Flossie Grantham of Birmingham spent a few days last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Grantham.

Mrs. Hobart Thornton and Miss Lois Casey spent Monday and Tuesday in Birmingham.

Mrs. Roy South and daughters, Elaine and Marguerite of Decatur spent the week end with relatives.

Mrs. W. M. Gantt and Mrs. H. B. Reid and little son, Benny, spent Saturday in Birmingham.

Joe Johnson of Birmingham spent a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Mann and family.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Cagle have returned after spending two weeks with relatives in Dutton.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Ashwander have returned to Steppville to make their home after living in Sylacauga for several years.

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Ashwander, Mrs. Walter T. Robinson and Rev. and Mrs. Woodfin K. Grove of Falkville attended the wedding of Miss Ruthella Ashwander to Levann Sanders Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Walters of Birmingham spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Compton.



POET'S CORNER

Harbor | By: Randy C. Hale

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

I have my private harbor
with some shiny new ships and
dreams.

But also there are old battled ones,
with barnacles encrusting on their hulls,
docked with frozen guns and galley
clean.

Some of my vessels never returned,
resting now upon the ocean floor,
lost in war.

So, Sail out! Sail out!
Christened boat with such high sails.
Return inland with success and
losses
once again within my port.



"Ships in Harbor" by Claude Monet 1840-1926

CORRECTION: In Poet's Corner, published Nov. 29, 2025, the poem "Gossip" was written by Randy C. Hale, not by Ella Wheeler Wilcox (as was published).

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

JAN. 10

B A R S F P R E C I S E L Y C
U E E O O L D E H R Y T A N H
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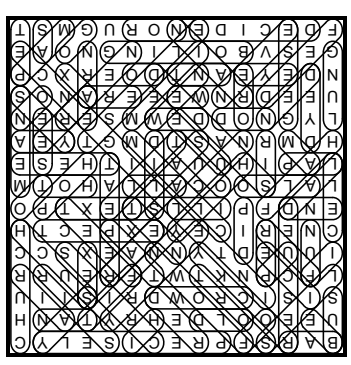
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

JAN. 10

8								
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		7			5		3	
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			8	4		1		
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ANSWERS:



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

Wallace State to offer free introductory machining course this spring

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College is offering an opportunity for students to learn more about Machine Tool Technology by providing a free introductory level class in machining along with essential workplace skills valued by employers.

"This spring, we're offering hands-on instruction in machining through a special mini term program," said Justin Burnett, chair of the Wallace State Machine Tool Technology program.

"It's designed for working adults, recent high school graduates and others curious about exploring a career in advanced machining."

The program includes the Alabama Career Essentials (ACE) course from the WSCC Adult Education program to learn workplace and career readiness skills.

Completion of the ACE course will lead to a tuition waiver for the Intro to Machining class that provides real shop experience in the basics of machining. Participants can also earn industry-recognized credentials, including precision measurement certifications.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State Community College is offering a free trial of sorts for those interested in a possible career in machining.

"This is a great opportunity for students to experience hands-on learning in machining," said Patti Wilkins, director of Wallace State Adult Education.

"This program gives you the chance to try machining, earn credits toward a degree and open the door to a rewarding career in advanced manufacturing," Burnett added.

Classes will begin on Feb. 17 and continue through April 30. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30-9:30 p.m. The deadline to apply for the program is Feb. 13.

Interested students can complete an interest form at https://forms.office.com/r/bijTGjevFn or contact Jennifer Lambert at 256-352-8043 or jennifer.lambert@wallacestate.edu.



EDITORIAL

The last rest stop is closed

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

Learning when to stop being available to those who never planned to stay

There comes a point when you realize you have been the last rest stop for too many people.

The place where they pull off, take what they need, steady themselves and then merge back onto the highway unchanged.

For a long time, I mistook availability for kindness and tolerance for strength.

Self-esteem has to rise before you can close those off-ramps. Until it does, the wrong people keep finding their way in.

They arrive with a rulebook for how you are expected to behave, what you must accept and how little room there is for objection. Any boundary you try to set is treated as negotiable, while theirs remain fixed.

Any concession they make can be withdrawn without warning, while yours is expected to stand.

I do not regret the time I shared with any of them. Those moments mattered.

But there comes a point when the familiar reassurance of "you just haven't met the right one" begins to ring hollow, especially when it is followed by "I wish I had met someone like you," an uncomfortable laugh and a quick shift in conversation.

Over time, it becomes clear that for some, that line is less encouragement and more a way to keep you close, just not close enough.

The hardest truth is simply some people were never attracted to who you are. They were attracted to access, opportunity and what a name opens, what the work provides and what simply being close makes easier for them.

That realization quietly alters how intimacy feels, even in its smallest moments.

When that illusion finally breaks, clarity follows. You begin to see what you were never meant to notice while moving at someone else's pace.

All along, the road ahead was visible, but distance reveals how often you were asked to enter quietly, to take the back way in, to exist as a shadow in public while someone carefully maintained the declaration of being single, even while sharing a vacation, a moment or a life adjacent to yours.

There is no rest in a place that asks you to disappear. There is no safety in a home that requires secrecy.

Anyone who insists on keeping you hidden from nearly everyone is not protecting privacy, they are protecting options. Do not be fooled. This applies to men and women alike.

At this point, those emotions are being laid to rest. Not out of bitterness, but out of self-preservation. I am done being convenient. I am done living on a leash, long or otherwise.

Whatever emotions remained for that world have reached their end.

Some chapters are not meant to be revisited. They are meant to be closed, honored for what they were and left behind so something quieter, truer and whole can finally take their place.

Obituary Announcements: Jan. 8-9

James Ralph Howard, 87
James Ralph Howard, age 87, passed away on Jan. 6, 2026, in Cullman, Alabama. Born on March 28, 1938, in Athens, Georgia, he was the son of Clay and Helen Howard, who instilled in him the values of service, faith and dedication that shaped his life. A proud graduate of the University of Georgia, James was a member of the University of Georgia Redcoat Band, an experience he cherished throughout his life. His love for music and camaraderie continued as a devoted member of the First Baptist Church of Cullman, where he sang in the Chancel Choir and participated faithfully in the Levering Sunday School Class. James served his country with honor, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army and completing his distinguished military career in the Georgia National Guard. His commitment to leadership and service extended deeply into his community as well. As a lifetime member of the Cullman Lions Club, he held numerous offices, including past president and played a key role in establishing the LEO Club at Cullman High School, helping inspire future generations of young leaders. He was also a recipient of the Melvin Jones Award. He is survived by his beloved wife, Virginia King Howard; his daughter, Stacy Howard Ramirez, and her husband, Samuel John Ramirez; and his treasured grandson, Campbell Clyde Ramirez, who brought him immense joy. James will be remembered for his steadfast faith, his generous spirit, his love of music, and his unwavering devotion to family, country, and community. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched through service, mentorship, and friendship. Funeral Service for James Ralph Howard, will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, January 11, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Dr. Edwin Hayes and Bro. Tom Richter officiating, burial at Cullman City Cemetery. Visitation will be from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. on Sunday, January 11, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. In Lieu of flowers please make donations to First Baptist Church of Cullman 501 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Cullman Heritage Funeral Home.

John J. Guthrie, Jr., 70
Life-long Cullman County resident, John J. Guthrie, Jr. died peacefully in his sleep at his residence on Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2026. He was born on June 13, 1955, to the late John J. Guthrie and Mary Braswell Guthrie. He is survived by his wife, Donna Guthrie; children, Lindsay Guthrie Stidham (Graham), Cullman, Peyton Guthrie, Cullman and, John J. Guthrie, III (Lily), Fultondale, Alabama; grandchildren, Evelyn Gray Stidham and Sophie Banks Guthrie. He is also survived by his siblings, Marsha Guthrie Folsom (Jim) of Cullman and David Guthrie (Lori) of Spartanburg, South Carolina. Nieces and nephews are Meghan Folsom (Garrick Ambrose), Ghent, New York, James Folsom (Jamie), Nashville, Tennessee, Ian Guthrie (Amanda), Duncan, South Carolina, and Noah Guthrie (Haley), Greer, South Carolina. John was a graduate of Fairview High School and attended Jacksonville State University where he was a member of Delta Chi Fraternity. His early days were spent in the Cullman County community of Walter where he was a farm boy, enjoying being at his father's cotton gin and at his grandfather's nearby farm. It was also where he learned the importance of friendship and working with people from all stations of life. As an adult, John was known for his quick wit, always ready with a laugh and a joke. His many friends enjoyed his company and good nature. His gentle smile and kindness was exhibited to one and all. John was quick to remind, "life isn't all touchdowns and cheerleaders" but to live every moment to the fullest. John worked as an associate at the Montgomery governmental affairs firm, Bloom Group and in that capacity represented various cities, including the City of Cullman, and other business interests who engaged him to lobby for their concerns at Alabama's Statehouse. He was highly respected and regarded as a person of integrity and honesty in his work and made many friends during his time in Montgomery. The family will welcome guests for visitation on Friday, Jan. 9, from 6-8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home, 100 Michelle St. NW, Hanceville, Alabama. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 10th at 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 320 Third Avenue SE, Cullman, AL, with the body lying in state from 1-2 p.m. Rev. James Fields, St. James United Methodist Church, Irondale, Alabama, and Rev. Josh Hickman of First United Methodist Church, Cullman will be officiating the services. Pallbearers are Mel Bailey, Ron Faust, John Floyd, David Lowery, Jeff Martin, Winfield Moon, Brandon Owens and Tommy Waldrop. Honorary Pallbearers are Doyle Baker and Kelly Allen. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in his memory to First United Methodist Church, 320 Third Avenue SE, Cullman, AL 35055.

Rodney S. Jones, 77
Funeral services for Rodney S. Jones, 77, of Hayden will be 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Sugar Creek Cemetery in Hayden. Visitation will be prior to the service from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Jones was born June 27, 1948, in Jefferson County, Alabama to the late William & Violet Sanders Jones. He passed away Jan. 8, 2026, in Hanceville, Alabama. Rodney was a faithful member of Sugar Creek Church of Christ, where his faith guided his life and relationships. He was a proud and passionate Alabama football fan who rarely missed an opportunity to cheer on the Crimson Tide. For many years, Rodney worked as a truck parts salesman for Ford, where he was known for his strong work ethic, reliability, and friendly personality. Outside of work, he enjoyed spending time on his Polaris, embracing the outdoors and the simple pleasures of life. Rodney shared a beautiful love story with his wife, as the two were high school sweethearts, building a lifetime of memories together through dedication, laughter, and unwavering commitment. His family meant everything to him, and he took great pride in being a loving husband and family man. Rodney will be remembered for his kind heart, steady presence, and the deep love he had for those around him. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him Mr. Jones is survived by his children, Shelly Cook (Richard), Becky Brown; grandchildren, Maddy Cook, Gray Whisonant, Garrett Whisonant; sister, Betty Johnson; special friend, Freda "Ducky"; and a host of nieces and nephews. Mr. Jones was preceded in death by his wife, Nella Jones; parents, William and Violet Sanders Jones; siblings, Mitchell Jones, Carolyn Seaver (Ramond), Sue Pate (Jake), Eloise Terry (Johnny), Donald Jones (Lee), Ruth Latham (Bob), and Bruce Jones. Serving as pallbearers will be Matt Brown, Cory Clark, Melvin Day, Steve Seaver, John Seaver, and Joey Latham. Honorary pallbearers are Greg Pate, Scott Pate, and Lee Ellison. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Jones family.

Donny Ray Thomason, Sr., 58
Donny Ray Thomason, Sr., 58, of Blountsville, Alabama, passed away on Jan. 7, 2026. Mr. Thomason was born in Blount County, Alabama, on Aug. 29, 1967, to the late R.C. and Ivy Marie Thomason. Mr. Thomason is preceded in death by his parents as well as his siblings, Rachel Howell, Patricia Davis, Jimmy Thomason, Tommy Thomason, and Ronny Thomason. Mr. Thomason's memory will be cherished by his sons, Donny Ray Thomason, Jr. (Kristie Ingle), Timothy Ray Thomason (Emily Atchley); grandchildren, Isabella Marie Thomason, Dominick Jarrels, Conner Ray Thomason, Trenton Ray Thomason, Kaylee Thomason; siblings, Barry Thomason, Jerry Thomason, Terry Thomason; mother of his children, Roberta Gilley; and special friend, Kay Landrum. Many people knew Donny from his fifteen plus years of working at Spring Valley Beach. Donny never met a stranger and was always easy to talk to. His sense of humor was amazing, and he had people laughing along with him as soon as they met him. Donny had a positive attitude and his outlook on life was infectious, resulting in him being someone people were drawn to and creating many lasting friendships. In his free time, Donny enjoyed working on small motors and watching old westerns on television. He also enjoyed hanging out with his grand dog, Flip. Mr. Thomason was a wonderful dad to his boys and an even better "Pawpaw Bulldog" to his grandchildren. His love for his family was evident, and his memory will be cherish by generations to come. Donny's memory will be celebrated in a graveside service, Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, beginning at 2 p.m., at High Rock Cemetery. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Thomason family.

Cora Sue Elam, 87
Cora Sue Duffey Elam, born on June 20, 1938, in Arab, Alabama, passed away peacefully on Jan. 8, 2026, at the age of 87. She was preceded in death by her parents Lawrence Duffey and Lorene Duffey and her husband George Elam. She is survived by her two children Todd Suggs and Susan (Jason) Willoughby, her grandchildren Nash (Christina Crisson) Suggs, Lillian Willoughby, and Ian Willoughby: Great Grandchildren Cohen Suggs and Jaxon Suggs, Her two sisters Martha Lloyd and Barbara (Larry) Byrd, a host of nieces and nephews, and her stepdaughters Darlene Hays and Sheila Smith. Sue's faith, strength, and dignity the last few years have been a testimony to how she trusted and lived her life for Christ. Her presence will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Romans 14:8: "If we live we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord; so whether we live or die we belong to the Lord." We all have comfort in knowing that death cannot separate us from God's love and care. We have comfort in knowing our loved Sue is peaceful now in her forever home. A graveside service will be held on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, starting at 12 p.m. for family and friends at Cullman City Cemetery. 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

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