

The Cullman Tribune

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
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CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman beauty and where to find it: Southern Accents Architectural Antiques
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'Non-conforming': Cullman City Council considers multiple changes to zoning code concerning blighted buildings, 'residential enhancements'

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council on Monday evening held first readings and public hearings for proposed rewording of certain portions of its zoning ordinance to allow for "non-conforming" construction and reconstruction, along with a new "residential enhancement" incentive program for removal and replacement of blighted and derelict structures on non-conforming lots.

- Section 165 "Reconstruction of damaged buildings or structure." The new wording would allow the reconstruction of buildings damaged by fire or weather in their original form, even if that form does not conform to current standards, as long as certain criteria are met.
- Section 32 "Lots, yards and open spaces." The update would allow construction of nonconforming structures, with City approval, if other nonconforming structures are nearby and the proposed structure is consistent with them.
- Section 163 "Nonconforming Lots." The update would allow construction on certain undersized lots, and subdivision of certain residential lots containing two separate structures, both with City approval.

Along with the » PAGE 5

Cullman Christkindlmarkt donates over $60K to local organizations



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Representatives of local organizations receive checks from proceeds of the 2025 Christkindlmarkt at the Cullman City Council meeting on Monday, Feb. 23, 2026.

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — During Monday's Cullman City Council meeting, Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson presented checks totaling over $60,000 to 14 local organizations.

Those receiving checks from the proceeds of the 2025 Cullman Christkindlmarkt included:

- Cullman Area Technology Academy
- Children's of Alabama
- Brooks' Place
- Curt's Closet
- Northbrook Caring Center
- United Way of Cullman County
- 130 Network
- Pilot Light House
- Cullman Elks Lodge
- Cullman Caring for Kids
- The Link of Cullman County
- The Willow Path
- Hope Horses
- Cullman County Public Library

Anderson said that, at a presentation last year, "Katie Brown brought up a question that really hadn't been considered to date, and that is, with the Christkindlmarkt platform, is there anything we can do for charities in the area.

"There's a lot of great causes in the community, and this platform and all these people will be a great place to recognize and to fundraise."

The result was the raising of $60,923 by event vendors, dedicated volunteers and other fundraisers who gave 20% of their funds raised to the charity project.

Participants gave at least three days of service at the event.

City's Spring Cleanup Week set for March 30-April 6

Leanne H. West
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — It's time to clear out those large items taking up space at home. Cullman's annual Spring Cleanup is set for March 30 through April 3, 2026. This special pick-up event is available to City of Cullman residential sanitation customers with curbside service.

During Spring Cleanup Week, sanitation crews will collect bulky household items such as furniture, appliances, mattresses and other large items like lamps and boxes. Residents are asked to place items curbside by 6 a.m. on their regular trash pick-up day.

Please note that construction materials, hazardous materials, cross ties and tires cannot be collected. In addition, there will be a temporary delay in green waste pickup during cleanup week so crews can focus on bulk item collection.

For more information, contact Cullman Sanitation at 256-737-7560 or email cityhall@cullmanal.gov.

Tribune debates 2026: Senate District 4 May 12; Cullman County sheriff May 14
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Good Hope girls, Cullman boys advance to Final Four



MIKE WITCHER, LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Left: Good Hope's Sophie Konrad; Right: Cullman celebrates their NW Regional Championship
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City of Cullman recognized for support of International Police Exchange Program
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cullman Electric Cooperative's food pantries aren't corporate responsibility
» PAGE 6

PET OF THE WEEK

Yukon the Snowshoe



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Yukon
» PAGE 3

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Feb. 25

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Feb. 25, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Feb. 23

- theft of property-1st degree; person; cash; $20,000
- harassing communications; person
- theft of property-1st degree; Cullman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram; '21 Dodge Challenger; $42,375; Benchmark Way SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; flashlight; $50; Olive St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassing communications; person
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; miscellaneous; $12; 3rd St. SE

Feb. 24

- theft by deception; Tony Serra Nissan; cash

Feb. 25

- theft of property-3rd degree; person; cash; Arnold St. NE

ARRESTS

Feb. 23-24

Bryant, Sarah R.; 38
- resisting arrest
- obstructing governmental operations

Steele, James T.; 34
- theft of property-4th degree

Smith, Daniel S.; 31
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA – insurance violation

Linley, Charles J.; 32
- theft of property-4th degree (3 counts)

Denton, Dana F.; 48
- FTA – driving while suspended
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – expired tag

Burns, Shawn L.; 46
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Wilkins, Toby A.; 52
- FTA – no tag
- FTA – improper tail lights
- FTA – fail to register vehicle
- FTA – switched tag
- FTA – driving while revoked
- FTA – insurance violation

Woljevach, Margaret A.; 65
- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – resisting arrest
- FTA – DUI
- FTA – improper lights
- FTA – driving on wrong side of road

Penn, Crystal W.; 43
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – fail to register vehicle
- FTA – driving without license
- FTA – switched tag

Logan, Angela D.; 41
- FTA – driving while suspended

Boyd, Lacie M.; 29
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – disorderly conduct

Baker, Frank R.; 51
- FTA – violation of protection order
- FTA – public intoxication (5 counts)
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree

McDonald, Steven S.; 40
- FTA - speeding

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Debates (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Tribune will continue its live candidate debate series in 2026, carrying forward a format established in 2025 that brings candidates and voters together for direct, public discussion ahead of elections.

The first confirmed debate of the 2026 election cycle will feature candidates for Alabama Senate District 4.

Incumbent Sen. Garlan Gudger Jr. and challenger JR Bowling, both Republicans, are scheduled to participate in the forum, which will be held Tuesday, May 12, 2026, beginning at 6 p.m.

The debate will take place inside The Bailey Center auditorium on the campus of Wallace State Community College in Hanceville.

The Tribune thanks Wallace State Community College and President Dr. Vicki Karolewics for opening the campus to host the debate and for supporting opportunities that encourage civic engagement with informed participation in the electoral process.

As in past cycles, The Cullman Tribune will issue debate invitations to all candidates who qualify for the ballot. Candidates who announce their campaigns will receive an invitation during the qualifying period prior to the election.

The Tribune has intentionally structured its debate schedule to take place closer to Primary Election Day, which is May 19.

This approach allows for a complete and accurate candidate field. It ensures that every qualified candidate is given the same opportunity to appear on stage before a live audience and viewers watching from home.

Cullman County sheriff candidates Chad Whaley and Tim Creel, both Republicans, have confirmed their intent to participate in an upcoming debate on Thursday, May 14, at 6 p.m. at The Bailey Center.

Several updates will be introduced to the debate format in 2026.

While the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce will not host, co-host or participate in moderating election debates this cycle, chamber leadership expressed confidence in The Tribune's debate series and encouraged community members to remain engaged.

"The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce's Governmental Affairs Committee will not host a candidate forum this election cycle," said Chamber President Joey Orr. "We believe the debates being conducted are thoughtful, well organized and informative for our members. We appreciate the efforts being made to engage the community and will encourage our members to listen in with The Cullman Tribune debates and stay informed throughout the election process."

The Tribune will continue to independently moderate all debates and oversee question development to ensure fairness, balance and real-time engagement in a public forum.

Candidates who have not yet announced or who are preparing to announce their campaigns may request publication of their announcements by contacting The Tribune newsroom at news@cullmantribune.com. Tribune staff will follow up with information regarding debate format and participation.

The Tribune's 2025 debate series saw strong participation, with candidates across multiple races choosing to answer questions directly from moderators on issues affecting the public.

That level of participation remains the expectation moving forward.

The 2026 debate series will also include a forum for candidates seeking seats on the Alabama Public Service Commission (Place 1). Incumbent Commissioner Jeremy Oden and challenger Matt Gentry, both Republicans, have both tentatively agreed to participate.

Due to ethical considerations and ongoing state-level procedural matters, that debate will be closely moderated to ensure compliance with applicable guidelines.

Additional debate dates, locations and participating races will be announced as candidates qualify and schedules are finalized.

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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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
- Friday, Feb. 27 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hangups 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.
- Sunday, March 1 – 8:15 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 in Hanceville
- February is Love Your Library Month, and we are having a BOOK SALE the entire month. The proceeds assist our children's program. The library is open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (closed from noon-1 p.m.) and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us on Facebook for weekly details or please feel free to call us at 256-352-0685. Follow Facebook/Hanceville Public Library for event details.
- Tuesday, March 3, at 11 a.m. Spanish class with Alejandra Pena, a 16-year veteran in Spanish instruction with a bachelor's in bilingual education
- Wednesday, March 4, at 10 a.m. Summer with the Cullman Soil and Water District will read Dr. Seuss' "Mr. Brown Can Moo, Can You?"
- Wednesday, March 11, at 10 a.m. Storytime
- Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Hanceville Irish Festival and BOOK SALE
- Tuesday, March 17, at 11 a.m. Spanish class
- Wednesday, March 18, at 10 a.m. Storytime
- Saturday, March 21, at 10 a.m. Book club
- Wednesday, March 25, at 10 a.m. Lisa L. Ellard, MSN CRNP, RN instructor, Department of Nursing Education at Wallace State Community College, will present a program on first aid for children
- Friday, March 27, at 6 p.m. Poetry Night is back! Calling all amateurs, song writers, performers to share their talents with us!

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church Knights of Columbus Annual Lenten Fish Fry Dinner
Friday, Feb. 27, from 5-7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Join us for a Lenten tradition with great food and fellowship! This event is open to the public, and everyone is invited! Dinner will be served in the church's Family Life Center and includes your choice of fried or baked fish, baked potato or French fries, coleslaw, hush puppies, drink and dessert — all for just $12 per plate. Stations of the Cross will follow at 7 p.m. in the church for those who would like to participate. All proceeds from the evening support church projects through the Knights of Columbus. The Family Life Center is located behind Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church at 205 Third St. SE, Cullman. Bring your family, invite your friends, and come enjoy a delicious meal for a meaningful cause during this Lenten season!

Cullman Lions Club Fish & Ham Dinner
Saturday, Feb. 28, from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Cullman Middle School lunchroom. Cost is $15. Club supports vision, diabetes and local charities.

67th Annual Chittlin' Supper
Saturday, Feb. 28, from 4-8 p.m. in the Meek Elementary School gymnasium. We will have great food, great entertainment and political candidates from across the state. Brought to you by the Meek High School Band of Champions and the Winston County Chittlin' Eaters Association. $15 per plate. Chicken will also be available.

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.

Men of the Covenant Men's Conference
- Sunday, March 1, from 5-7 p.m. at Seventh Street Baptist Church, 708 Seventh St. SW in Cullman. Men, you're invited to a powerful and timely gathering designed to strengthen your walk, sharpen your leadership and renew your commitment to Christ and your family.
- We are honored to welcome two dynamic speakers: Jason Simpson, north Alabama meteorologist and faithful deacon at Valleydale Church in Hoover; and Christopher Smith, longtime Men's Ministry Team Member at Whitesburg Baptist Church in Huntsville.
- This evening will be filled with strong biblical teaching, real-life encouragement, worship and authentic brotherhood. Our theme is rooted in the bold declaration of Joshua: "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." - Joshua 24:15
- Whether you are a husband, father, grandfather, young professional or student, this conference is for you. Be challenged to lead your home with conviction, courage and commitment. Bring a friend. Bring your son. Bring your small group. Stand as a Man of the Covenant.
- Register at www.7thstreetba-12tist.com.

Cullman County Master Gardners Native Azalea and Wildflower Sale
Saturday, March 21, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the fairgrounds at Sportsman Lake Park

WWA Wyld Wrestling Alliance Event to Support Cullman County Relay For Life
Saturday, April 11, at noon at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center. Doors open at noon. Bell time 6 p.m. General admission is $10, ring-side $15 and kids 5 and younger get in free. Get ready to rumble for a cause! The Cullman County Relay For Life Team Sassy Ladies is teaming up with WWA Wyld Wrestling Alliance for a high-energy fundraiser you won't want to miss! These wrestlers know a thing or two about strength, grit and fighting back — and together, we're channeling that same power straight into our mission to kick cancer's butt. Live music, wrestling and food.

Cullman County Master Gardners Spring Plant Sale
Friday and Saturday, April 17-18, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the fairgrounds at Sportsman Lake Park

Yukon (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Yukon is a striking Snowshoe cat with soulful eyes and a personality that quietly wins you over. He's The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

Approximately 1 year old, Yukon already carries himself with the gentle confidence of a companion who knows he belongs right beside his person. The propensity to be your best friend is strong with this one.

He enjoys demonstrating his climbing skills, often exploring the heights of a cat tree with curious grace.

But as much as he loves a good perch, what he truly seeks is the opportunity to come right alongside you for quality cuddling. Yukon thrives in those calm, close moments that turn a house into a home.

Since he's already neutered and up to date on standard services provided through the shelter's adoption program, Yukon's adoption fee is just $35.

The lower fee does not suggest his worth; it simply means he is ready and waiting for someone to choose him.

He would make an exceptional therapy or companion kitty. His affectionate nature and steady temperament make him the kind of cat who bonds deeply and brings quiet comfort to everyday life.

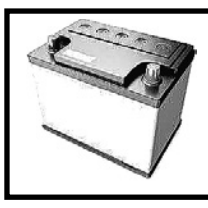
Said his caregiver at the shelter, "I have to say, this handsome fellow has a presence that is hard to forget. He truly is the kind of companion who makes every day feel a little warmer."

Visit the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE. It's open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Contact the shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

If Yukon has already been adopted by the time you call or visit, please take a moment to meet his friends who are still waiting for their forever homes. There are many deserving pets hoping for the same second chance.

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PREP BASKETBALL

Cullman wins NW Regional Championship 80-53 over Lee-Huntsville to return to State Semifinals

Lucas Gray
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. — When head coach Stu Stuedeman took Cullman to the Final Four in 2022, it was the first time the school had been in 90 years. In just his fifth season, he's taking the Bearcats back again.

The Birmingham native has continued to redefine Cullman basketball, with the latest update being the Bearcats' 80-53 thrashing of Lee-Huntsville to take the 6A Boys NW Regional Championship.

On paper, Lee matched up well size-wise and athletically with Cullman. On the court, it was a different story. After the teams traded early blows, Jon Luke Witcher hit a three from the corner and Sam Dorough, the eventual tournament MVP, hit two from deep to jolt the Bearcats out to a 18-10 lead at the end of the first.

In the second quarter, Cullman's identity of 'CHAOS' was on full display. Their press defense thwarted any and all plays from Lee, and they thrived in the open court, with Owen Graves nailing a three from the corner in transition to put the Bearcats up 21-10 to start the quarter. The three-point numbers themselves can almost tell the story of the first half, with Cullman going 7-15 from deep and Lee failing to hit one at all.

The FG shooting told a similar story, with Cullman shooting nearly 48% and Lee only going 6-26. The disparity gave the Bearcats a commanding 34-14 halftime lead.

"When we can hit our threes and set our pressure, we're pretty nasty. A lot of what we do is predicated off of making three-point baskets, playing fast, getting in our pressure, getting people sped up into bad shots. So, when we're making threes, we're really really tough to beat.

"I don't think we've had a game this year where we've made ten or more threes and lost. So if we're making threes in a situation like that, we're going to be hard to deal with because we can set our defense, we can get into you full-court, 94-feet, and we can figure out how to guard you in the halfcourt as well. They're fantastic guys, it's not easy to shoot in a bigger gym and our guys stepped in there, toed the line and shot it confidently," Stuedeman said on the shooting performance.

The second half opened with a pair of pick-and-roll layups from Brooks Loftin, then a driving lay from Dorough.

The Generals, feeling the desperation of a 20-point deficit still, moved into a hard press defense. Cullman was thrown off, causing a wave of turnovers that allowed a speedy Lee team to fly down the court. Midway through the third, the Generals had cut their deficit to just 42-31, but Bearcat guard Colt Fletcher shut the door on the comeback attempt, nailing two threes on consecutive possessions.

The increase in breathing room allowed Cullman to slow back down, and Emory Bonds closed the quarter out with a buzzer-beating putback to make it a 52-33 Cullman lead.

The final frame was all Bearcats, with Dorough, Owen Graves and Fletcher all hitting threes to add to an incredible 13-27 (48.1%) shooting day from deep, and put an additional 28-points of salt on the wound of the Generals, who lost 80-53.

"Great game by our guys, I'm just so proud of them. When we won the Sweet 16 game I thought we were a little nervous to start the game. So, we talked about not coming to take part, but to take over, and thriving in advance.

"It's a worn out term in all of basketball to 'survive and advance,' we're not here to survive anything, we're here to thrive. I thought our players, as they do night in and night out, executed our game plan and everything we asked them to do perfectly and I'm just so proud of them and all the hard work they put in," Stuedeman said on the win.

Dorough led the game with 20 points and added five boards and six assists. Loftin and Hopper were major factors in Cullman out-rebounding the Generals 40-20, with Loftin grabbing nine alongside his 17 points and Hopper bringing down ten to go along with his ten points. Both were awarded spots on the All-Tournament team, as well.

Cullman moves on to face either Spain Park or Calera on March 4th at 10:30 a.m. at the BJCC in the State Semifinal.

PREP BASKETBALL

No. 4 Good Hope topples no. 9 Wilson 58-38, advances to third straight Final Four

Sammy Confer
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The final Class 4A NW Regional Finals game in the varsity girls' division took place on Saturday night, as fourth-ranked Good Hope took on ninth-ranked Wilson. Good Hope jumped out to a quick lead and stretched it to double digits at the break. Behind a suffocating defense and balanced scoring by the Lady Raiders, they would go on to knock off the Lady Warriors 58-38 to advance to their third straight Final Four.

Wilson hit a basket down low for the first points of the game. Good Hope was held without a field goal for a little over two minutes to start out the game, but Ella Davis quickly changed all of that, as she collected back-to-back baskets off of back-to-back steals, and Ella Gossett dropped in a floater to give the Lady Raiders a 6-2 lead. Another basket by Davis and another floater by Gossett made it a 10-6 game late in the first. That would be the start of a 10-2 run by the Lady Raiders, which was made up of a steal and a layup by Sophie Konrad, a basket by Davis off of a great pass by Konrad and a Lucie Adams three from the left wing stretched their lead to 18-8. Davis knocked down a pair of free throws and Konrad added three of her own from the free throw line, as Good Hope took a 23-13 lead into the second.

Adams knocked down a floater and later found Lexi Marshall down low for two to give the Lady Raiders a 27-15 lead early in the second quarter.

Konrad drilled three free throws to make it a 30-15 game late in the first half. Wilson knocked down four straight from the charity stripe to cut it to 30-19. Marshall drained a three from the left corner, and Konrad added a driving layup to put Good Hope ahead, 35-22. The Lady Raiders would take a 35-24 lead into the locker room.

It would be the battle of the defenses to start out the second half. The Lady Warriors cut it to 35-26 early in the third, but later in the quarter, Marshall laid it in off of a turnover and Adams drained a three from the right wing to give Good Hope a 40-27 lead.

Wilson nailed a three to cut it to 40-30 with a little over three minutes to go in the third period. Marshall found Konrad in the left corner for a three to put the Lady Raiders ahead 43-30. The Lady Warriors put in a late basket to cut it to 43-32 going into the final period.

The strong defensive play by both teams continued into the fourth quarter. Neither team hit a basket for almost three minutes, but Marshall changed all of that, as she hit a three from the left corner and got fouled. She ended up hitting the free throw to complete the four-point play to widen Good Hope's lead to 47-32 with a little over five minutes to go in the game.

Gossett knocked down yet another floater, and Davis drilled a short jumper to make it a 51-34 contest. Davis, Gossett and Adams went a combined seven-for-eight from the charity stripe to put the finishing touches on a 58-38 win for the Lady Raiders, who clinched a spot in the Final Four for the third consecutive year.

Four Good Hope players finished in double figure scoring on the night. Davis put in 14 points, five rebounds, and three steals. Konrad collected 13 points, four rebounds, and three steals. Marshall finished with 12 points, three assists, and a pair of steals, and Adams finished with a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds, along with a steal.

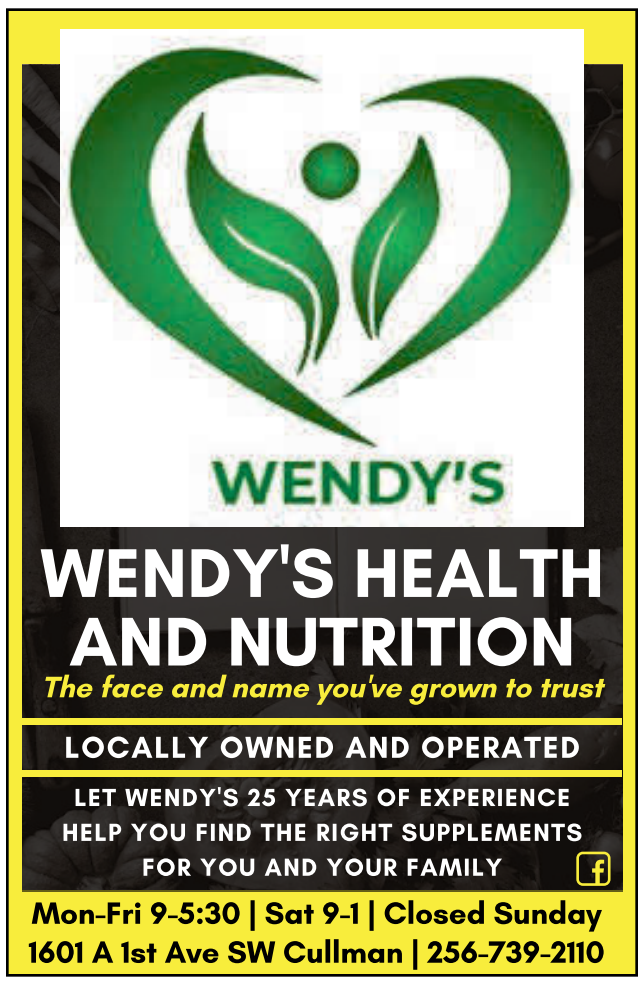
Konrad was named Girls 4A NW Regional Tournament MVP, with Gossett and Marshall joining her on the All-Tournament team.

"We played a pretty emotional game here a couple of days ago against Deshler. We might not have necessarily played our best game, but it was enough to advance, and at this time of the year, that's what it's about. We just have to advance. We want to play one more game. There's some big pieces as far as the other girls that contributed in this tournament: Ella Davis and Lucie Adams. I'm also proud of Lexi, Sophie, and Ella Gossett. They played a heck of a tournament, so we get to advance, which was one of our goals at the beginning of the year." Aby said.

Junior Ella Gossett is happy to see the team make it back to Birmingham, and after making it to the Final Four the past two seasons, they want to use that as motivation to make it back to the title game.

"We know what it feels like to be there. We've been there the past two years, so we know what we have to do. We just use that as our motivation and the feeling of being there, the electric atmosphere, it's a wonderful feeling. It's something that we all want to feel again, so we use that as our motivation to get back," Gossett said.

Good Hope will play the Montgomery Catholic/Pleasant Grove winner next week in Birmingham with the date and time to be determined.



Cullman Tennis' boys and girls leave Gardendale with wins

Nathan Bates
Cullman HS Tennis

GARDENDALE, Ala. — The Cullman Bearcats varsity tennis teams picked up a pair of road wins over the Gardendale Rockets on Tuesday.

The Bearcat boys dominated their matchup, earning an 8-1 win to move to 6-1 on the season.

The Lady Bearcats matched that performance with an 8-1 victory of their own, staying perfect on the season at 7-0.

Cullman will be back in action Thursday when they travel to take on the Decatur Red Raiders.



NATHAN BATES/CULLMAN HS TENNIS

Cullman boys and girls tennis teams



City of Cullman recognized for support of International Police Exchange Program

Leanne H. West
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The City of Cullman was recognized today for its growing and continued support of the Alabama chapter of the STAR International Police Exchange (IPE) Program, as Operations Lt. Eric W. Cole of the Cullman Police Department presented Mayor Woody Jacobs with a commemorative plaque at city hall.

The plaque serves as a token of appreciation for the City's partnership and involvement in the STAR IPE Program, which fosters professional development and lasting friendships between law enforcement officers in Alabama, Germany and Spain.

"This plaque represents our gratitude for the City of Cullman's continued support of the STAR International Police Exchange Program," said Cole, current leader of the Alabama STAR IPE Chapter. "From City administration to Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism and our police department, it has truly been a team effort.

"The City's help with transportation, activities, and coordination made 2025 an outstanding and productive year for the program. I look forward to continuing to grow this partnership and strengthening our connection with our friends in Germany."

The STAR IPE Program, now celebrating its 40th anniversary, began with a shared bond between police officers in Hamburg, Germany and Los Angeles, California. Today, chapters operate across Germany, Spain and the United States.

Each year, Germany hosts an exchange in the spring, Spain in the summer and American agencies in the fall. Officers participate in a two-week professional and cultural exchange, staying with host officers and their families while learning about each country's equipment, procedures and training methods.

The Alabama STAR IPE Chapter was established in 2009 in the Decatur area. For many years, the Cullman Police Department has served as a host agency, welcoming international officers to tour facilities, observe training and engage with agencies across the state.

In 2025, the City of Cullman played an especially important role in supporting the program.

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism coordinated activities that coincided with the city's annual Oktoberfest celebration, providing guests with an authentic experience that left a strong impression. Several visiting officers even returned during their free time to enjoy more of the festival.

Transportation for a traveling group of officers across Alabama can present logistical challenges, but the City helped address that need by providing a City van so participants could travel together.

This support allowed for smoother coordination and more meaningful time spent building professional and personal connections.

"We're glad to be part of something that builds real relationships," said Jacobs. "Programs like this give people the chance to learn from each other and see how others do their work. We're proud to support it and proud that Cullman can play a small role in strengthening those international ties."

AL STAR IPE is a two-week professional exchange between law enforcement officers from Alabama, Germany and Spain.

The program balances professional development with cultural immersion and personal connection, creating lasting relationships while offering valuable insight into different approaches to policing across nations.

For more information about the STAR International Police Exchange Program, contact Lt. Eric W. Cole, operations lieutenant, Cullman Police Department, at 256-775-7175.



CITY OF CULLMAN

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs, left, and Cullman Police Department Operations Lt. Eric W. Cole (right)

Cullman beauty and where to find it: Southern Accents Architectural Antiques

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

Tucked away on 308 Second Ave. SE is a trove of unique, timeless pieces. When you first walk in you are greeted with a warm smile that sends you on your architectural exploration.

If you take the path to the right you will pass pedestals. Lions on mantel pieces silently roar while the chandeliers glisten down at you. As you see yourself in its pendalogues and nearby vanities, you feel as if you're seeing yourself for the first time. There is a stained glass window that, you assume, belonged to a forgotten church. The palette reminds you of paint on a brush as you introduce it to water.

A cooler holds glass bottle beverages waiting to be sipped, but you continue on. Up the grand stairs are abandoned rooms with faded paint exposing wood. The colorful tones swell against the lighter parts that were stolen by the sun. Your weight causes the wooden floors to creak. You consider how many before you have stepped here prior to it being filled with art and before the top of the staircase was lined with trinkets. You gaze at the city from shutterless windows and wonder what it looked like long ago.

Downstairs you go through two double doors and down a few steps. A grassy area awaits there that is home to an old, rusty bike. There is pristine artwork illuminating the nearby buildings that enclose you and, for a moment, you feel as though you've stepped into another realm.

You climb the metal stairs to a room full of doors. Not one is the same as the other. As you venture on there is the smell of wood from within the workshop that holds within it an artisan. You pass church windows and intricacies in surplus. Grand windows with cracked, weathered wood rest on lovely archway doors detailed in flowers. A wall made of old doors welcomes you to the next room. Each piece holds within it a story and the overwhelming desire to know its beginning and end.



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Flower door in Southern Accents Architectural Antiques



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Southern Accents Architectural Antiques features a wide variety of timeless pieces.

Council (from Front)

updates, the council also held a reading and hearing for a new ordinance that would offer financial incentives for what it termed "residential enhancement" defined as "the construction of a new residential structure with all exterior walls, including exposed foundation walls, being clad with the approved masonry materials. Smooth-faced standard concrete block is prohibited. Masonry cladding shall extend from grade to roof eaves. Gable end walls and dormers may be clad with any material permitted by the International Residential Code." Construction of new buildings meeting that definition on a non-conforming lot could qualify for a $10,000 reimbursement, with the amount doubled if the new construction required the removal of an existing derelict structure.

Standards adopted for electric vehicle charging stations

The council also adopted an ordinance that will govern the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in the city. The ordinance sets regulations including:

(a) Electrical Compliance. Installations shall comply with Article 625 of the 2026 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC), which governs Electric Vehicle Power Transfer Systems.

(b) Location and Setback. Charging stations shall be located a minimum distance of fifty (50) feet from any building to ensure safety and reduce fire hazards.

(c) Vehicle Impact Protection. Barriers shall be provided in accordance with Section 312.2 of the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) to protect charging stations from vehicle impacts. Barriers shall not obstruct accessibility as required by ADA standards. Vehicle impact protection posts shall meet the following specifications:

- *Materials: Constructed of steel not less than four (4) inches (102 mm) in diameter and concrete filled.*
- *Spacing: Spaced not more than four (4) feet (1219 mm) between posts on center.*
- *Depth: Set not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) deep in a concrete footing of not less than fifteen (15) inches (381 mm) in diameter.*
- *Height: Set with the top of the posts not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) above ground.*
- *Distance: Located not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) from the protected object (charging station).*

Stations will require "regular maintenance to ensure compliance with all applicable codes and standards," as well as "clear signage indicating usage instructions, safety warnings, emergency shut off, and emergency contact information." Those failing to follow the regulations can be fined up to $500.

Other council business

The council suspended its regular procedural rules to approve an ordinance to repeal and replace Section 4 of Ordinance No. 2026-25 requesting two certified appraisals on surplus property and that all property offers to be submitted to the city council for future consideration at a public meeting.

The council passed an ordinance to annex property owned by Brock Miracle Egg, LLC, located on County Road 1466 as R-3 Residential District. The site is being developed to hold 30 single family homes and 20 townhouses.

The council voted to amend the position control and job descriptions of the City of Cullman to:

- Update nine job descriptions for the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Add two new job classifications for the Wastewater Treatment Plant: Lab Technician and Operator (uncertified)
- Reclassify a position at the WWTP from Administrative Clerk to Lab Technician
- Add a new job description for an Assistant Director for the Cullman Economic Development Agency
- Add a new job description for a Museum Director
- Add a full-time Director position at the Cullman County Museum
- Remove a part-time position at the Museum

The council approved special event requests:

- From Amanda Garrison of Sonic for a drive-in car show on the first Friday of March through October from 6-8 p.m.
- From Joyce Nix of St. Bernard Prep School to host the annual Bloomin' Festival Arts and Crafts Fair April 18-19, 2026

The council set a public hearing on March 23, 2026, for an ordinance to rezone property owned by Rodney Hawkins located at 701 Main Ave. SW from R-4 Residential to B-2 Business District.

The council held additional first readings of ordinances:

- To rezone property located at 2211 Second Ave. NW from R-1 Residential to B-3 Business District
- To establish procedures for the sale of real property owned by the City
- To establish a process for a property owner located outside the city limits to request sanitary sewer service from the City
- To establish a process for a property owner located outside the city limits to request water service from the City
- To adopt an official tree list for the City as recommended by the Tree Commission
- To annex property owned by Joseph Culpepper located at County Road 1273 into the city limits of Cullman as AG-1 Agricultural District

The next Cullman City Council meeting will be on Monday, March 9, 2026, at 7 p.m. in the city hall auditorium. The public is invited to attend.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cullman Electric Cooperative's food pantries aren't corporate responsibility

Zackery Moore
Contributor

Cullman Electric Cooperative desperately wants you to believe it cares about the community. Its latest maneuver in corporate benevolence? The "Community Pantry." A pair of wooden boxes meant to house food and supplies completely funded and stocked by the communities they serve. The cooperative helpfully suggests donating boxed macaroni, granola bars and canned meats to fill the void. Who knew spam still existed in 2026?

For an estimated $500 in plywood and nails, Cullman Electric has purchased itself a weak public relations campaign. Meanwhile, the actual cost of keeping the lights on continues to empty local wallets. Following a Tennessee Valley Authority rate hike in October 2024 that added $60 annually to customer bills, 2026 has ushered in even steeper costs. Cullman County residents now shell out an average of $257 a month on electricity, according to EnergySage.com. Over 25 years, that amounts to a staggering $110,800. Causes for rate increases might include inflation, soaring fleet fuel costs and a 143% cost spike in infrastructure materials like poles and transformers.

Despite raking in those monthly premiums, Cullman Electric apparently has no intention of actually buying groceries. A closer look reveals the cooperative will not be supplying the food for its own branded initiative; that burden falls entirely on the generosity of local residents. If a college intern pitched this concept, they deserve a passing grade for managing to execute a zero-dollar philanthropic strategy from the bottom of the ladder. It is a brilliant idea for an "A."

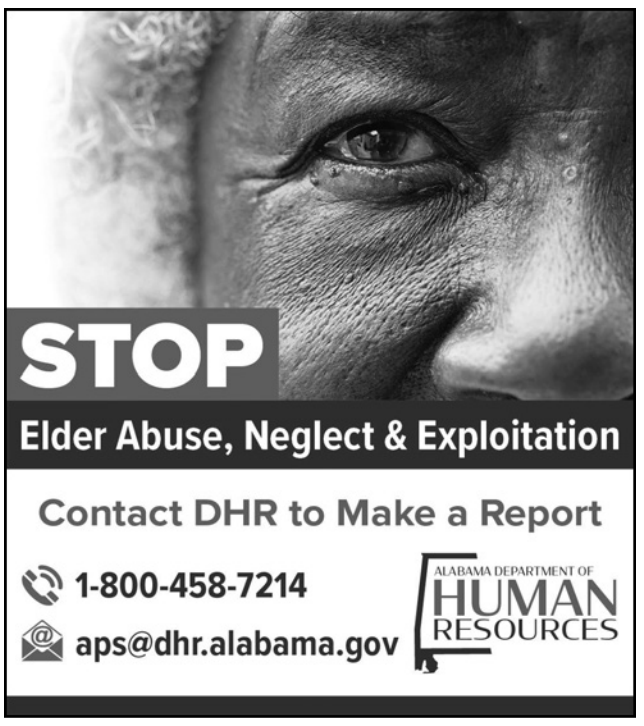
As a community strategy, however, it is remarkably cynical. Someone sitting in a Cullman Electric boardroom correctly identified that their customers are going hungry, a situation undoubtedly worsened by escalating utility bills, and decided the most effective solution was an empty box. They are asking the same struggling ratepayers who fund their salaries, bonuses and infrastructure upgrades to feed one another, all while the cooperative stands nearby waiting for applause.

This is not corporate responsibility. It is a pantomime of empathy, allowing a utility provider to masquerade as a charity without ever opening its own wallet.

Zackery Moore
Cullman, Ala.

Editor's note: Reader Zackery Moore is referencing the Cullman Electric Cooperative's "Community Cupboards." See www.cullmantribune.com/2026/02/18/cullman-electric-cooperative-launches-community-cupboards-in-celebration-of-90-years-of-service.





FREE MAMMOGRAMS AND PAP TESTS
with FREE CANCER TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE WOMEN
• Breast Cancer Screenings 40-64 yrs old
• Cervical Cancer Screenings 21-64 yrs old
DON'T DELAY
DO IT FOR YOURSELF
DO IT FOR YOUR FAMILY
For a referral or more information go to:
www.alabamapublichealth.gov/bandc
scan the QR Code below,
or contact the hotline: 1-877-252-3324
Breast & Cervical CANCER EARLY DETECTION Program of Alabama

Obituary Announcements: Feb. 24-25

Ila Ranae Tolliver, 57
Funeral service for Ila Ranae Tolliver, 57, of Cullman was at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2026, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Fairview West Cemetery, Rev. Bobby Connell officiating. The family received friends from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. prior to the funeral. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Ranae passed away Feb. 23, 2026, at CRMC. She was born Nov. 4, 1968, to James Eugene Wisener and Barbara Ellen Connell Wisener Whitehead. She loved music, loved her family and watched family videos all the time. She was a great encourager and a very positive person. She was a giver and was always wanting to give whatever she had. She was preceded in death by her father; her stepfather, Donald Whitehead; her husband, Cecil Patrick; granddaughter, Ireland Abbott; sister, Angela Quick; brother, Randall Wisener. Survivors include her mother, Barbara Whitehead; daughters, Crystal (Dwight) Cone, Anna (Justin) Smith; sisters, Jamie (Matthew) Looney, Connie Self; grandchildren, Isabella Lindsey, Iliana Lindsey, Wyatt Cone, Kota Cone; nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Ronald Dwight Justice, 75
Ronald Dwight Justice, 75, of Vinemont, Alabama, passed away on Feb. 20, 2026. A devoted husband, proud veteran, dedicated public servant, and respected community leader, Ronald lived a life defined by service, discipline, and deep love for family. Born on Sept. 26, 1950, Ronald answered the call to serve his country at a young age. He honorably served in both the United States Army and the United States Marine Corps from 1970 to 1978, including service in Vietnam from 1971 to 1973. His military years reflected his courage, strength, and unwavering sense of duty — qualities that remained evident throughout his life. Following his military service, Ronald continued his commitment to public service. In 1984, he joined the Vinemont Volunteer Fire Department, where he faithfully served his community for decades, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant. He was not only a firefighter but also an educator and mentor. Ronald taught EMT classes, as well as community First Aid and CPR courses, empowering countless individuals with the knowledge and confidence to save lives. His impact reached far beyond emergencies — it lived in the preparedness and courage of those he trained. Ronald also dedicated many years of civilian service to the Department of Defense, retiring in 2010. In every role he held, he was known for his strong work ethic, steady leadership, and reliability. When something needed to be done, Ronald was the one who showed up. Above all, Ronald was a family man. He is survived by his beloved wife, Nina Justice; Mark (Shannon) Harbison; Eric (Kristy) Harbison; Annette (Mike) Francis; Dawn (Cary) Chambers; Dena (Robby) Harbison; and Darrin Harbison; sisters Joyce Martin and Jean Bryant. He was a proud grandfather to 14 grandchildren and a cherished great-grandfather to 14 great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews. His legacy of strength, service, and love lives on in each of them. Those who knew Ronald will remember his steady presence, his loyalty, and the quiet confidence he carried. He believed in responsibility, in protecting others, and in passing down knowledge that could make a difference. His life was one of action, integrity, and commitment. A visitation with family will be held on Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026, from 2-4 p.m., at Vinemont Community Center, 88 Ridgeway Street, Cullman, AL 35058, with a graveside service at Panama Missionary Baptist Church to follow, 1380 County Road 1224, Vinemont, AL 35179. Flowers and cards will be received at 258 Roberson Street, Cullman, AL 35058. Ronald's life was one of honor and service. Though he will be deeply missed, the example he set — of courage, dedication, and love for community and family — will endure for generations.

Joshua Lee Duncan, 49
Funeral services for Joshua Lee Duncan, 49, of Pinson were 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation was prior to the service from noon-2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to Josh Duncan who was far too clever to be ordinary and far too stubborn to be forgotten. Known for a razor-sharp wit and perfectly timed sarcasm, he had a way of making people laugh. His humor was never just for the joke it was how he connected, how he comforted, and how he reminded everyone not to take life too seriously. Beneath the sarcasm was a deeply caring soul and a God-loving man. He lived life on his own terms and loved his people fiercely especially his son Mason. His faith gave him strength, his humor gave others joy, and his presence gave comfort to those around him. Though he may be gone from our sight, his voice will live on in every sarcastic remark, every shared laugh, and every moment that reminds us to hold tight to faith, family, and love. His absence leaves a silence that cannot be filled, but his memory leaves a warmth that will never fade. Mr. Duncan was born Jan. 25, 1977, in Cullman, Alabama to Bryon Duncan and Bobbie Mayhan Shedd. He passed away Feb. 21, 2026, in Vinemont, Alabama. Mr. Duncan is survived by his son, Mason River Duncan Hays; father and stepmother, Bryon Duncan & Karen Duncan; sister, Christina Duncan Cluxton (Jason); stepbrother, Jared Caples (Stacy); Mason's mother, Jennifer Hays; nieces & nephews, Cameron Glasscock (Autumn), Jaxon Cluxton, Maddie Cluxton, Olivia Cluxton, Hayden Scott, Carter Caples, Hazelee Caples, Carson Caples; a host of aunts, uncles, cousins; and special friends, Bridget Pate & Silas Hays. Mr. Duncan was preceded in death by his mother, Bobbie Mayhan Shedd; and his grandparents, William and Laura Duncan, Sue Gray, and Robert Mayhan. Serving as pallbearers will be Billy Grant, Gary Horn, Tommy Norris, Eric Jones, Clint Burton, Shawn Witcher. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Duncan family.

Joe Sterling Beasley, 80
Joe Sterling Beasley age 80 of Bremen, Alabama passed away Feb. 22, 2026, at home. Joe was born May 24, 1945, in Eldridge, Alabama. Joe was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Virginia Beasley; sisters Dorothy Beasley and Doris Burkett; brothers John Allen Beasley, Frank Beasley Jr., Roy Wilson Beasley and Lawson Beasley; and grandson Justin Luker. Joe is survived by his wife of 30 years, Linda Stricklin Beasley of Alabama; daughters Jennifer (J.T.) Wright of Alabama, Pam (Alfred) Handley of Alabama and Sheri (Brian) Baker of Alabama; sons Doug (Marilyn) Beasley of Alabama, Anthony Beasley of Alabama and Barry Holcomb of Alabama; sisters June Boland of Mississippi, Edith Townsend of Missouri, Francis Williams of Alabama, Lora Grace of Illinois and Dale Boland of Alabama; brothers Stewart Beasley of Alabama and Stanley Beasley of Alabama; nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. Joe was a man of strong faith, he always put God first. He was a member at Kinney Grove Baptist Church. Joe served in the U.S. Navy for three years. Much of his time in the service was spent aboard the USS Weiss APD-135. He was a coal miner for the Drummond Coal Company for twenty two years following his time serving in the Navy. Joe was a proud member of the United Mineworker's Association. Joe spent his later years enjoying time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and watching Alabama football. He loved nature and spent much of his time outdoors or at the beach whenever he could. Most notably, his trip to the Smoky Mountains was his favorite. The family will receive friends for a visitation Friday, Feb. 27, 2026, at Kinney Grove Baptist Church, 320 County Road 221, Bremen, 35033 from noon until the service time at 2 p.m. Burial to follow in the church cemetery. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Robert Wayne Harris, 75
Robert Wayne Harris, 75, of Mobile, Alabama, passed away on Feb. 10, 2026. Mr. Harris was born on May 5, 1950, to the late R.C. and Tigger Clifton Harris. As a child Wayne accepted the salvation of Christ Jesus and was baptized into the family of God as a member of First Baptist Church in Guntersville. After moving away from the area, Wanye and his wife Kathy enjoyed being part of the Brooklyn Church online family where they worshiped their Savior alongside family and friends. Wayne graduated from Guntersville High School as a member of the Class of 1970. Mr. Harris went on to work as a Quality Engineer for many years and was extremely proud of his contribution to the Space Program. Mr. Harris enjoyed scouting and flyfishing in his free time. Wayne and Kathy were married for fifty-three years, and together they cherished the two boys with whom they were blessed. Mr. Harris adored his wife and their children more than anything else, and the addition of grandchildren and a great-grandchild brought even more joy into Wayne's life. The legacy of faith, love of family, and hard work left by Wayne will be remembered by his family for generations to come and he will be missed by all who knew him. Mr. Harris is preceded in death by his parents, R.C. and Tigger Harris, as well as his brothers, Danny Harris and Rodney Harris. Those left to cherish Wayne's memory include his beloved wife, Kathy Gilley Harris; sons, Chris Harris (Virginia), and Jaison Harris; grandchildren, Ira Harris (Taylor), and Ravin Ramirez (Benji); a great-grandchild, Zion Harris; his brother, Rickey Harris (Anita); and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends. Friends are invited to join the Harris family for a Celebration of Life on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at Brooklyn Church. Visitation will begin at 1:30 p.m. with services following at 2 p.m. with Selena Carroll officiating. Burial will follow in the adjoining cemetery. Mr. Harris's care was entrusted to Gulf Coast Cremation and Funeral Services. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to assist the Harris family with their Celebration of Life services.

Jackie Ray McAbee, 75
Jackie Ray McAbee, 75, passed away on Feb. 23, 2026, at River City Nursing Home in Decatur. Jack was born on June 1, 1950, in Decatur, Alabama. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Decatur Brown Service Funeral Home is assisting the McAbee Family.

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LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
TED STEPHEN HALLMARK, * **CASE NO.: PC2025-170**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Brandi Nicholle Hallmark, as Personal Representative of the Estate of TED STEPHEN HALLMARK, deceased, on the 21st 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 be barred.

Brandi Nicholle Hallmark
Personal Representative

John W. Gant J.R.
Attorney for Personal Representative
420 20th Street North, Suite 1100
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

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

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

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

Case# PC2025-412
PB WIL Book 136 Page 111
Recorded in Above Book and Page
02/10/2026 11:36AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
WJC

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2026-2025 412

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF RONALD DALE WOODARD, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to SHAWNA W. NORMAN on the 10th day of February 2026, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

SHAWNA W. NORMAN
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith Attorneys, LLC
Attorneys for Personal Representative
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Tuesday March 3, 2026, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Short form subdivision at 1351 Goehler Road SE & 1403 Goehler Road SE – create 4 lots
2. Short form subdivision on Catoma Lane NE / Convent Road NE – create 4 lots
3. Request to vacate alley / surplus property at 309 13th Street NE

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2026-052

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CAROL DENISE NIXON, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Robert Bruce Nixon, II on the 23rd day of February, 2026, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Robert Bruce Nixon, II
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
ANTHONY GARRETT SMITH) CASE NO.: PC 2026 - 026
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to Abigail Richter Estes, as Administratrix of the Estate of Anthony Garrett Smith, deceased, on the 9th day of February, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Abigail Richter Estes

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

Attorney for Administratrix

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
CIRCUIT DIVISION

STOCKTON MORTGAGE CORPORATION,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) **CASE NO.: 25-CV-2024-900325.00**
AMY ASKINS, her heirs and devisees, if deceased, Fictitious Party Defendants NOS. 1&2 being those persons or entities claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion or other interest in said lands 13236 S AL HWY 69 BREMEN AL 35033,)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

To any and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, Remainder, Reversion, or interest in said lands, Cullman County, Alabama Parcel Identification Number 28-07-35-0-000-023.000, and or their heirs, and any and all persons, partnerships, professional associations and/or corporations who claim any right, title, interest, or ownership on or to the following described property, or any part thereof, whether such interest be present, future, contingent, reversionary, or otherwise, to wit:

A part of the Southwest quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 3 5, Township 1 2 South, Range 5 West and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Southwest comer of said forty ; thence North along the West line of the forty 540 feet to the North right of way line of Alabama Highway #69; thence in an Easterly direction along the North right of way line of said Highway a distance of 807 feet which is the point of beginning of the property herein conveyed; thence continuing in an Easterly direction along the North right of way line of said highway a distance of 1 65 feet; thence due North to the North line of the forty; thence West along the North line of the forty to a point due Norh of the point of beginning; thence due South to the point of beginning. The property herein described embracing 1 acre more or less.
Also, all property to the west of the above-described property which is described as the Boundary Line, referenced in that cerain Boundary Line Agreement recorded at Deed Book 665 ,Page 52, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

Commonly known as: 13236 S AL HWY 69 BREMEN AL 35033

You are hereby notified that on the 16th day of September 2024, a complaint was filed by STOCKTON MORTGAGE CORPORATION as plaintiff wherein you were named defendant against the property described above and whereas it was alleged that Plaintiff owned said property being situated in the CULLMAN County, Alabama.

You are further notified that Plaintiff avers in said complaint that they claim title by reason of the following:

1. Plaintiff holds color of title to the above-described land by virtue of a Foreclosure Deed recorded August 6, 2024, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of CULLMAN County, Alabama in Bk: 758, Pg: 371.

2. Plaintiff avers that it has paid all taxes and bore all expenses. Further, Plaintiff avers it has exercised all rights and/or responsibilities to ownership with respect to said real property.

3. Plaintiff avers that it does not know of anyone or any person who may have any claim in any title to any interest in, or lien, or encumbrance on the above-described real property.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED and required to file with the clerk of the court and to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney, Jonathan Glover, ALAW 5404 Cypress Center Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, Florida 33609, an answer to the Complaint within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this Notice, or default judgment will be entered against you.

This the 9th day of February, 2026

Lisa McWain
Circuit Clerk
Cullman County, Alabama.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on March 23, 2026 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time, anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-33 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak. - Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 33
AMENDING THE CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, TO RE-ZONE CERTAIN PARCELS OF PROPERTY AS SET FORTH HEREIN

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1. Under the authority of Chapter 52, Articles 1 through 4, Section 11-52-1 through Section 11-52-84, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, and specifically Sections 11-52-77 and at the request of property owner, Rodney L Hawkins, the following describe the tracts or parcels of land, to-wit:

PPIN: 5161. Parcel No.: 17-05-16-4-009-001.000. Property Address: 701 Main Ave SW.
A lot being 100 feet of even width off and across the East end of Lot Number One (1) of Thompson and Buchmann's Addition to Cullman, AL as shown and known on the recorded plat or map of said Additon being of record in Map Book 1, Page 44 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.
within the city limits of Cullman, Alabama, and lying and being in Cullman County, State of Alabama, designated as R-4 Residential District on the Zoning Map of the City of Cullman, Alabama under Ordinance No. 2004-03 and as may be reflected in any comprehensive master plan for the City of Cullman, Alabama, be, and is hereby changed from R-4 Residential District to B-2 Business District.

SECTION 2. That this ordinance be published at least once a week for two consecutive weeks in advance of its final passage in a newspaper with general circulation within the City of Cullman, Alabama, the first publication of said notice and ordinance being verbatim and the second publication either verbatim or synopsized, with the last publication being at least 15 days prior to the date set for public hearing and passage of said ordinance.
SECTION 3. That a public hearing be held relative to the passage of this ordinance on the 23rd day of March, 2026 at 7:00 p.m., at which time interested parties and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and any changes relating thereto.
SECTION 4. That all notices as required by law be given by the City Clerk concerning said public hearing, and in addition thereto, a certified letter be sent by the Clerk to all contiguous property owners at their last known addresses as shown by the tax records for the City of Cullman, Alabama.
SECTION 5. That upon final passage of this ordinance, all zoning maps, master comprehensive plans or any other documents of the City of Cullman, Alabama, in conflict with this ordinance are hereby changed and amended to reflect the changes and amendments herein.
SECTION 6. Should any part or portion of this ordinance be held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, for whatever reason, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect any other part or portion of this Ordinance.
SECTION 7. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage or adoption as required by law, including notice, publication and public hearing, all in accordance with Section 11-52-1, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, as amended. Submitted by Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 26
TO ANNEX CERTAIN PROPERTIES INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Cullman finds that the following property owner, Brock Miracle Egg, LLC, has petitioned the City under the provisions of Section 11-42-21 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, that the following described property, owned by the petitioner, be annexed into the City of Cullman:
PIN: 200273. Parcel Number: 17-01-01-0-000-001.000. Property Address: 0 County Road 1466, Cullman, AL 35055.
Legal Description: A tract or parcel of land containing 52.66 acres of land, more or less, and being all of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and a part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, all in Section 1, Township 10 South, Range 3 West, Cullman County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows:
Begin at a found railroad spike marking the Northeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and run North 89 degrees 32 minutes 36 seconds West a distance of 1326.17 feet to a set rebar marking the Northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 00 degrees 33 minutes 45 seconds West a distance of 1324.01 feet to a found capped rebar marking the Northwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, thence continue South 00 degrees 33 minutes 45 seconds West a distance of 424.99 feet to a found capped rebar; thence North 86 degrees 52 minutes 11 seconds East a distance of 451.52 feet to a found bolt marking the Northwest corner of a 50 foot wide road/utility easement; thence South 00 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds West and run along the West line of said 50 foot wide easement a distance of 622.27 feet to a set rebar marking the North right-of-way line of State Highway No. 157, same being the Southwest corner of said 50 foot wide easement; thence North 87 degrees 06 minutes 08 seconds East and run along said State Highway No. 157 a distance of 49.91 feet to a found square pipe, same being the Southeast corner of said 50 foot wide road/utility easement; thence North 00 degrees 06 minutes 19 seconds East a distance of 622.47 feet to a found square pipe marking the Northwest corner of said easement; thence North 86 degrees 53 minutes 34 seconds East a distance of 825.31 feet to a point on the East line of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 00 degrees 38 minutes 03 seconds East a distance of 304.09 feet to a set rebar marking the Northeast corner of said Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 00 degrees 38 minutes 03 seconds East a distance of 1325.25 feet to the point of beginning.
Subject to a 50-foot-wide road/utility easement as described in Deed Book 463, Page 190 in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama. Less and except for all that part of the above-described tract that is within the right-of-way line of County Road 1466, County Road No. 1464 and Pitzing Road. Subject to any rights of way and/or easements of record.
SECTION 2. That the Council has before it a map showing the relationship of the properties proposed to be annexed to the corporate limits of the City of Cullman, and that said map is on file in the office of the City Clerk along with an acknowledgment by the property owner that they want it to be annexed into the City of Cullman.
SECTION 3. That the City of Cullman does hereby annex as a part of its corporate limits the above described tracts or parcels of land as R-3 Residential District contingent upon the owners granting an easement up to but not exceeding an additional fifty (50) feet in width less any width of existing public road contiguous to said easement for a public road right-of-way including utilities for water, sewer, surface water, natural gas, electric, internet, cable or other public services provided by the City or its franchises.
SECTION 4. That a copy of this ordinance after its adoption, which ordinance includes a description of the property annexed to the City of Cullman, be filed in the office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, the county in which the municipality is located.
SECTION 5. That this ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 23rd day of February, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council.
ATTESTED BY: /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 23rd day of February, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

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ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 34
AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE SECTION 4 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 25

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1. The Cullman City Council hereby repeals and replaces Section 4 of Ordinance No. 2026 – 25 with the following:

SECTION 4. *The Cullman City Council hereby directs the City Clerk to bring two certified appraisals on the above-described properties and any potential offers that may have been submitted back to the City Council for their possible consideration at a future Council meeting.*

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.
If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.
SECTION 3. REPEALER.
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict.
SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.
This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law. ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 23rd day of February, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 23rd day of February, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

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ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 27
AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF PUBLIC ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the Cullman City Council recognizes the increasing use of electric vehicles and the need for public charging infrastructure; and
WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish regulations to ensure the safe installation and operation of public electric vehicle charging stations to protect public health, safety, and welfare; and
WHEREAS, compliance with established electrical and fire codes is essential to mitigate risks associated with such installations; and
SECTION 1. Purposed of this Ordinance is to add Article VI. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.
SECTION 2. The following article of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is hereby added to read as follows:

Chapter 22 – Fire Prevention and Protection.
Article VI. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

Section 22-120. Purpose and Scope.
This ordinance establishes requirements for the installation and operation of public electric vehicle charging stations within the City of Cullman.
Section 22-121. Definitions.
For the purposes of this ordinance:
(a) "Public Electric Vehicle Charging Station" means any Level 1, Level 2, or DC fast charging equipment that is accessible to the public and is used for charging electric vehicles.
(b) "Building" means any structure intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.
Section 22-122. Installation Requirements.
All public electric vehicle charging stations shall be installed in accordance with the following requirements:
(a) **Electrical Compliance.** Installations shall comply with Article 625 of the 2026 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC), which governs Electric Vehicle Power Transfer Systems.
(b) **Location and Setback.** Charging stations shall be located a minimum distance of fifty (50) feet from any building to ensure safety and reduce fire hazards.
(c) **Vehicle Impact Protection.** Barriers shall be provided in accordance with Section 312.2 of the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC) to protect charging stations from vehicle impacts. Barriers shall not obstruct accessibility as required by ADA standards. Vehicle impact protection posts shall meet the following specifications:

- **Materials:** Constructed of steel not less than four (4) inches (102 mm) in diameter and concrete filled.
- **Spacing:** Spaced not more than four (4) feet (1219 mm) between posts on center.
- **Depth:** Set not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) deep in a concrete footing of not less than fifteen (15) inches (381 mm) in diameter.
- **Height:** Set with the top of the posts not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) above ground.
- **Distance:** Located not less than three (3) feet (914 mm) from the protected object (charging station).

These requirements are designed to enhance safety by providing robust protection against accidental vehicle impacts.
Section 22-123. Operation Requirements.
Public electric vehicle charging stations shall be operated in a safe manner, including regular maintenance to ensure compliance with all applicable codes and standards. Operators shall provide clear signage indicating usage instructions, safety warnings, emergency shut off, and emergency contact information.
Section 22-124. Permits and Inspections.
Installation of public electric vehicle charging stations requires a permit from the City of Cullman Building Department. Inspections shall be conducted to verify compliance with this ordinance, the NEC, and the IFC. The installation must be performed by a contractor with the appropriate licensing and insurance for such project.
Section 22-125. Enforcement and Penalties.
Violations of this ordinance shall be subject to fines not exceeding five hundred dollars ($500.00) per violation, and the City may order the removal or correction of non-compliant installations.
SECTION III. Severability.
If any provision of this ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.
SECTION IV. Effective Date.
This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and publication as required by law. ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 23rd day of February, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 23rd day of February, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor

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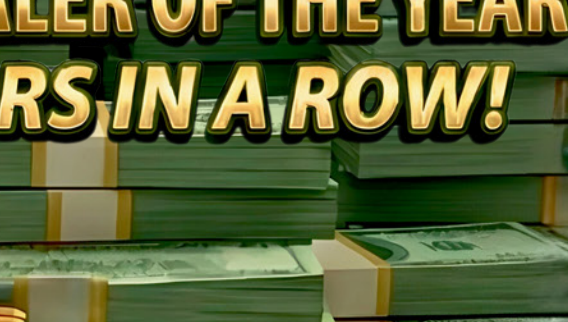
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