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West Point High scholars win JV state championship

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. - The West Point High School JV Scholars' Bowl team won the Alabama Scholastic Competition Association (ASCA) JV State Tournament March 6 at Wallace State Community College.

Coach Lee » PAGE 3


LEE HENRY

Left to right are Alen Lechner, Collin Cooner, Abram Motte, Cole Chamblee, Ava Pruett and Thatcher Armstrong, with Coach Lee Henry in the back.

Alabama Tulip Festival open at Cullman's 4D Farm


LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Alabama Tulip Festival is happening now at 4D Farm in Cullman.

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Alabama Tulip Festival is officially open at Cullman's 4D Farm.

Months of planting and preparation went into the beautiful tulip fields on the property.

Owner Beth Daniel said, "Tulips are very weather-dependent, so we are hoping they continue to bloom and give a good showing. We are open as long as the blooms last. The weather this spring will definitely make it a short (but colorful) season. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, as we'll be posting frequent updates and important details."

Hours are 9 a.m.-6 p.m. while the tulips are blooming.

Guests can enjoy the gorgeous tulip fields, hyacinths and alliums blooming through springtime, photo ops (including a windmill in the tulip field and more), farm animals and play areas, giant jumping pillow and attractions and, on the weekends, mechanical rides and tubing slides.

"All attractions are open on weekends," Daniel said. "Weekday visitors will have access to the jumping pillow, play areas and animals. Mechanical rides and tubing slides will be weekend only."

Flowers can also be picked to take home. Tulips are $2 per stem, hyacinths are $4 per stem and alliums (when blooming) are $4 per stem.

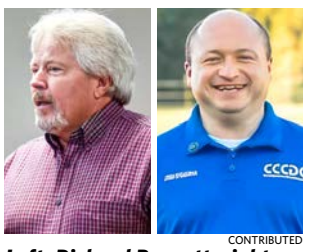
"Alliums typically bloom a bit later, closer to Easter season. Bloom availability will vary, and we'll keep everyone updated on social media as flowers begin to open," said Daniel.

Admission includes access to the tulip fields, farm attractions and photo areas. Weekday admission is $13.95 online, while weekend admission is $17.95 online.

Said Daniel, "We love flowers. Every fall we plant 100 pounds of zinnia seed and 100 pounds of sunflower seed, which adds so much beauty to our fall season. In recent years, we stopped opening in the spring because Easter was short and required so many hours to prepare the farm. We decided that if we ever opened in the spring again, spring flowers would need to be part of the plan — to help extend the season and bring that same beauty we enjoy in the fall. And when you think of spring flowers... » PAGE 5

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Barnett, Speakman seek District 2 commission seat


CONTRIBUTED

Left, Richard Barnett, right, Josh Speakman » PAGE 2

Hartselle High School Theatre to present 'Big Fish: School Edition' April 7-12
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Certified arborist training planned for March 23-24 in Cullman
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6 new members sign on with Wallace State Powerful Partnerships
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ADPH asks for input to improve health in your local community
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Alabama Extension celebrates America with 250 Pound Challenge
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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported March 13

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported March 13, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

March 9

- assault; CR 1222
- domestic violence; CR 1101
- theft of property; Commercial St. NW
- theft of property; Hwy. 91
- domestic violence; Shady Ln. SW
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1145
- domestic violence; CR 517
- violation of protection order; Lipsey Ave.
- theft of property; Welcome Rd.
- theft of property; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 1141
- criminal mischief; Welcome Rd.
- theft of property; Hwy. 278W
- theft of property; CR 890
- burglary; Commercial St. SE

March 10

- harassing communications; Hwy. 69S
- harassment; CR 38
- theft of property; Hwy. 91

March 11

- theft of property; CR 616
- assault; harassment; CR 591
- domestic violence; Hwy. 278W
- possession of dangerous drugs; giving false ID to avoid arrest; CR 541
- domestic violence; CR 702
- unlawful breaking entering motor vehicle; Hwy. 69S
- criminal mischief; CR 598
- burglary; CR 1682

ARRESTS

March 9-11

Atkins, Anthony M.; 43
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance
- FTA – switched tag

Davis, Randy; 58
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument

Drake, Antonio L.; 39
- FTA – burglary-residence-no force
- FTA – theft of property-2nd degree, $1500-2500
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous

Fanning, Ricky D.; 34
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Garrett, Wesley N.; 44
- PROBATION VIOLATION – auto theft

Gean, Jr., Clifford W.; 29
- possession of dangerous drugs

Harris, Nathan D.; 37
- FTA – damaged property-criminal mischief
- FTA – criminal trespass

Haws, Tonya F.; 49
- FTA – driving without drivers license

Hayes, Jana B.; 54
- theft-miscellaneous, less than $500

Holder, Gabrielle L.; 24
- family offense-causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Jackson, Ethan N.; 21
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Jackson, Michael L.; 67
- exposure or lewd act in public

Light, Jonathan K.; 43
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument
- FTA – obstructing criminal investigation
- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – disorderly conduct/disturbing peace/affray

Manuel, Jacie V.; 34
- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- carrying brass knuckles/sling shot

McCormick, Jeffery S.; 37
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – criminal trespass

Odom, Jr., Michael D.; 40
- PAROLE VIOLATION/REVOCATION – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Sadler, Heather L.; 37
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Sherrell, Joshua A.; 37
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Stewart, Justin D.; 38
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
- FTA – failure to register vehicle
- FTA – no seat belt
- FTA – obstructed windshield
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance
- FTA – speed above 70 MPH – interstate highway

Tarvin, Limual J.; 32
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-child

Tays, Daisha L.; 37
- family offense-causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Webb, Alexander D.; 23
- possession of dangerous drugs
- using faluse identity to avoid arrest/hinder prosecution

Wise, Joseph T.; 33
- GJ – theft of property-2nd degree, $1500-2500
- GJ – theft of article from auto

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

March 7

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $16; Olive St. SW

March 8

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $45; Olive St. SW

March 12

- domestic violence-3rd degree; domestic violence-criminal mischief; person; damage to '17 Nissan; $2,000; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $30; Hwy. 157

ARRESTS

March 11-12

Hill, Jonathan C.; 62
- public intoxication

Jackson, Michael L.; 67
- FTA – public lewdness

Collier, Amanda M.; 38
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – driving while suspended

Brown, Rachel J.; 51
- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

A word with Richard Barnett, candidate for Cullman County Commission, District 2

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. - Richard Barnett, a longtime member of the West Point community, is a Republican candidate for the Cullman County Commission, District 2.

"I grew up on a cattle and chicken farm – so I know what work is," Barnett said. "I've worked in a machine shop as a machinist, on an oil rig in Louisiana for eight years, and now I've worked in warehouse distribution for 18 years – and about 14 of those years were in management.

"For six years, I was an operations manager. After that I ran and operated two convenience stores, one being the West Point Superette, for 16 years."

On why he's running for Cullman County Commission, District 2, Barnett said, "I want our community to be more proactive, making sure to have better communication with the public on road construction.

"Also, I want to make sure we are supporting law enforcement. Last, I think we are missing an opportunity by not asking companies in Cullman to help out even more with our local schools."

Barnett has years of experience in industry and business, including working with Walmart Distribution, Books-A-Million and OfficeMax over the past two decades, as well as through small business ownership.

"I have been married this June for 25 years and Michelle and I have raised four fantastic kids," Barnett said.

"(Our) two oldest have served in the military. As of today, we have eight grandchildren – four boys and four girls.

"We live in the West Point community. We belong (to) and have attended West Point First Baptist Church for the last 30 years."

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

A word with Josh Speakman, candidate for Cullman County Commission, District 2

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

WEST POINT, Ala. – West Point resident and Brandin' Iron General Manager Josh Speakman is a Republican candidate for the Cullman County Commission, District 2.

"My goal is fostering economic growth, business loyalty and community prosperity," Speakman said. "In our community, few individuals have contributed more significantly to the establishment and sustained success of local businesses than Mr. Roy Drinkard. With over eight decades of dedicated leadership, Mr. Drinkard has been instrumental in pioneering new enterprises and ensuring the ongoing vitality of established businesses. Attracting new businesses is essential to economic dynamism, as they bring innovative services, diverse product offerings and expanded opportunities that enhance the quality of life for all residents."

Speakman said equally critical is a steadfast commitment to supporting existing small businesses.

"These enterprises form the backbone of our community, having long provided essential goods and services, generated employment, sponsored youth athletics, supported charitable initiatives and maintained the vibrancy of our neighborhoods," he explained. "My commitment, as your next Cullman County Commissioner for District 2, is to implement targeted incentives — such as tax credits, grants and other forms of assistance — that enable our small businesses to expand, modernize and invest confidently in their future. Local entrepreneurs deserve the assurance that their contributions to our community are recognized and reciprocated through meaningful support."

Last, he shared that he would be an advocate for equitable treatment in economic development incentives. He said any tax credits, abatements or similar benefits extended to large corporations to establish operations in our area should also be made available to existing small businesses, enabling them to pursue comparable opportunities for growth and reinvestment.

"I will also champion policies that prioritize the utilization of local small businesses' products and services in county-funded projects, in full compliance with statutory bidding requirements," Speakman said. "This approach will ensure transparency, fairness and integrity while directing the benefits of public development directly to our community's established enterprises. By working together, we can cultivate a balanced and resilient economy — one that honors our heritage, strengthens our present and builds a prosperous future in which both emerging and long-standing businesses thrive collaboratively, reinforcing the distinctive character and enduring strength of our community."

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

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West Point (from Front)

Henry said the great thing about winning a JV title is that it shows the program has a good pipeline of young players who will be able to keep the tradition alive for at least a few more years.

"We are in the thick of the season now," Henry said. "We just managed to win the ASCA JV state championship (JV is classified as students in grades 10 and below). We have our varsity state tournament at Jeff(erson) State Community College in Hoover on April 10. We have won the last three in a row, and are hoping to stretch it out to four."

JV team members are Ava Pruett (State MVP), Abram Motte (All-State), Alen Lechner, Cole Chamblee, Thatcher Armstrong and Collin Cooner.

"Then, of course, we travel to Chicago on the weekend of April 24-26 to defend our national championship," Henry said.

"Winning at this level takes years of hard work and dedication. It takes building a certain culture and mindset among the kids on the team. The older, veteran players help out the younger ones and they all hold each other accountable."

Henry said, as a coach, he started trying to build that kind of dynamic as soon as he began at West Point back in 2012.

"During that time, we've had unprecedented success," he said. "We've won the county championship all 14 years that I have been here. We've won several varsity state titles, a jv title and a national championship as well. It has been a lot of fun, but also a lot of hard work to not only build a team of this caliber, but to maintain it year after year. I'm excited to see how the rest of this year plays out – whether we can 'four-peat' at varsity state, and whether we can successfully defend our national championship."

Henry said the team would be grateful if any local businesses considered helping out financially.

"The Scholars' Bowl is not a big revenue producing activity," he explained. "Running a program of this caliber is extremely expensive. We rely a lot on donations to keep us going. We appreciate the consideration of any contributions being made."

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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
• Sunday, March 15 – 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.
• 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!

Hanceville Irish Festival
Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in downtown Hanceville. For more information visit www.facebook.com/hancevilleirishfest.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing
Sunday, March 15, at 5 p.m. with The Pylant Family. Everyone is welcome. The church is located on U. S. Highway 278 East approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left.

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

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Spring Revival
Monday-Friday, April 6-10, at 7 p.m. The evangelist will be Bro. Jared Dixon. The Dixons will be singing. Everyone is invited. The church is located on U. S. Highway 278 East approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information, call 256-339-1862 or 256-590-1501. If you can't come, please pray for us.

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

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PREP BASKETBALL

Cullman County Hall of Famer, Holly Pond basketball coach Tim Willoughby announces retirement

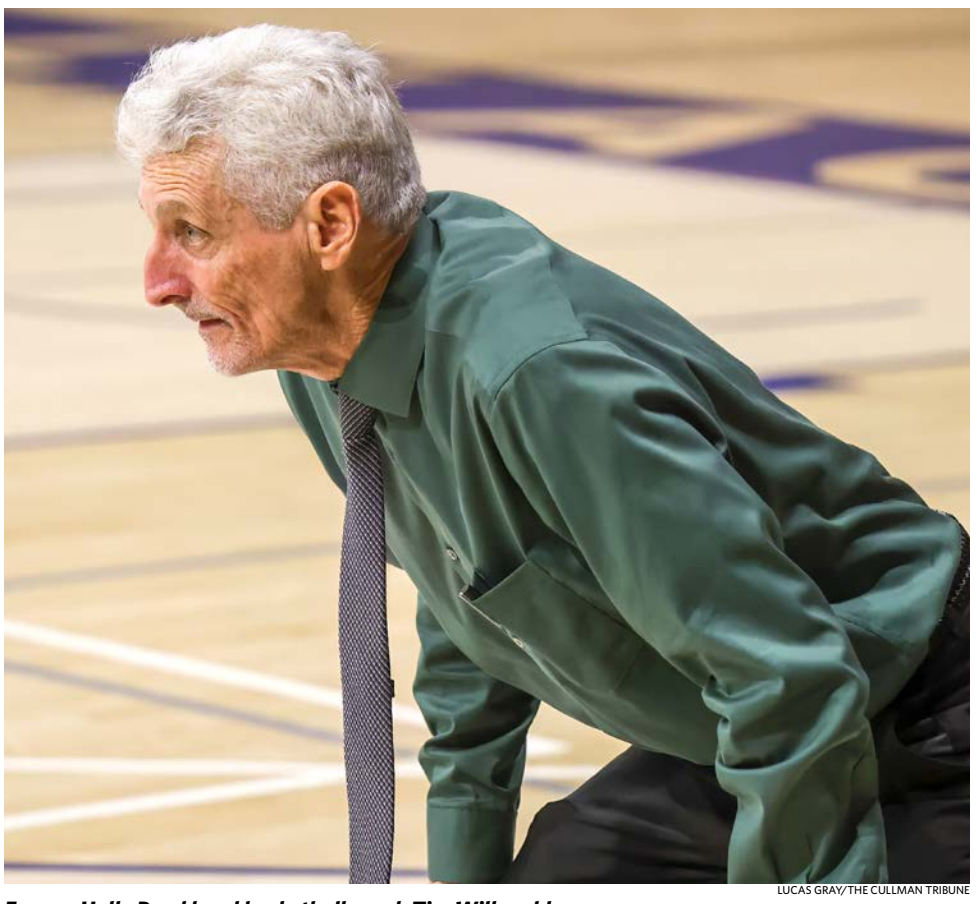
Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Thursday, March 12, saw legendary head basketball coach Tim Willoughby retire after 23 years. He coached five different teams, finished with 371 wins and had a tremendous impact on so many kids' lives not only on the court, but in the classroom as well, working as a math teacher for 39 years.

He started his coaching career at Curry during the 1993-94 season, and during his three years there, he went 52-34 including a 21-7 record in his final season. He went to Sparkman to start out the 1996-97 season. He was there for six years and finished with 20 or more wins four times, including a 26-8 record and 28-4 mark in his first two years as their head coach. After taking a year off, he coached at Hanceville for a couple of seasons, and one of the players that he coached was former Hanceville head coach Stephen Chandler.

He took almost a decade off before returning to coaching at Cold Springs, where things really took off, to start out the 2013-14 campaign. In his 10 years as the Eagle coach, he finished with six 20-win seasons, and a pair of county championships in 2014 and 2021. He also took home several area championships during his time at Cold Springs as well. He closed out his coaching career at Holly Pond, and the Broncos finished runner-up to Good Hope in the 2025 Cullman County Basketball Tournament.

No matter where he coached, he carried a fiery energy that not many younger coaches possess. He collected eight area championships, seven county titles, and he was the ASWA Coach of the Year in 2A and 5A. In 1997, he finished runner-up in the state tournament, and is immortalized in the Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame.



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Former Holly Pond head basketball coach Tim Willoughby

PREP SOFTBALL

Lady Eagles' errors kickstart Hanceville's 15-3 rout; Bulldogs hand Vinemont their first loss of 2026

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. – On Thursday evening the Vinemont Lady Eagles, riding a 6-0 start to the season, hosted county and area foe Hanceville, who started the season at 3-8 under first-year head coach Kim Lewis.

After nearly taking down Priceville Saturday and beating Holly Pond 18-3 on Tuesday, Lewis and the Lady Bulldogs look to be finding a groove. While pitcher Tori Vines held the Bulldogs scoreless for three frames, defensive errors were the catalyst for wild fourth and fifth innings that led Hanceville to a 15-3 win.

"That was a big win, and a much-needed one for our team. We started out 3-8, had a little losing streak there, but we're looking forward to playing to our full potential, which is exactly what we saw today," Lewis said on the victory.

Early on, it looked like most Vinemont games so far this season. Vines gave up a hit here and there, but she largely had Hanceville's offense on lockdown. At the plate, the Eagles were even better. Leading off for Vinemont, Bailey Howard slapped a ball over the left fielder, showing off her wheels on a triple to get things started. She wouldn't have to wait long to touch home, with the next batter, Kylie Metzger, driving her home with a single to make it 1-0 Eagles.

The bats kept going in the bottom of the first, with Vines hitting a shot to the gap to drive in Metzger and Bryleigh Basinger to give Vinemont a 3-0 lead.

Things would go quiet for a few innings, with Hanceville's defense recuperating after the rough first inning and Vines staying the course for the Eagles, who had been struggling to field the ball on a few occasions.

In the top of the fourth, the dam broke. Hanceville's Kynzlee Farr, a.k.a "Bill", according to her father, had already picked up a hit in the first, and got on base again on a fielding error from Vinemont's infield. After a walk, Isabella Spinks hit a grounder to the third baseman, who couldn't quite decide where to throw it, letting the bases load up for Hanceville. Vines, in a bind, walked another batter, forcing in Hanceville's first run of the afternoon, but still trailing 3-1.

After the third strike on Mia McCain on the next at bat was dropped, she was thrown out at first, but a throw trying to keep Spinks on third sailed out of the playing field, allowing Spinks to come in for Hanceville's second score. With the pressure on and runners on second and third, Laila Lewis ripped a grounder under the glove of Vinemont's Howard, clearing the bases and making it a 4-3 Bulldog lead.

Vinemont, looking to gain some momentum back on offense, ran into a hot-handed KK Butler, who struck out two straight then got some help on the third out, as Bentley Childers made an impressive diving stop on a line drive from Haley Millwood.

Hanceville, after the four-point fourth, went on to have a chaotic 11-score fifth inning. Farr opened things up again with a line drive to right, then scoring on a triple from Spinks the next play to make it 5-3. Pop flys were dropped and throws sailed over heads, but the Bulldogs bats were rolling. It was easy to miss scores, with two often coming at a time on botched plays in the infield allowing Hanceville runners to touch home. Within minutes, the Bulldogs had sailed through their entire batting order and were up 15-3 at the end of the inning, which was called the end of the game after Butler recorded a one-two-three bottom half inning on the mound for Hanceville.



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Hanceville's Kynzlee Farr sliding into second base

"I'm new to this team, and they're new to me. We're trying to get a lot of things set in motion as far as discipline, commitment and work ethic. I's been quite a change for them as well as for me, getting to know them. It's a good springboard and gives them a little more confidence going into our next game," Lewis said after the win.

Butler finished her five-inning performance on the mound with two earned runs and nine strikeouts. She did damage at the plate, too, recording three hits and an RBI. Leading the game was Farr, who went 4-4, scored three times and drove in a run.

For Vinemont, they ended the day with nine defensive errors, with only six of the 15 runs allowed going down as earned. In five innings, Vines still struck out seven batters.

Hanceville's next game will come at the Falkville Tournament starting tomorrow night, with their opponent to be determined.

PREP TENNIS

Cullman's girls top Jasper 6-3, boys fall 3-6



NATHAN BATES/CULLMAN HS TENNIS

The Cullman girls tennis team earned a 6-3 win over the Jasper Vikings. The girls put together a strong day and came out with a solid team victory. The Cullman boys team competed throughout the match but fell to Jasper 3-6. Cullman will take on the Gardendale Rockets at home on Tuesday.

PREP BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Scores and stats for March 12, 2026

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

BASEBALL

- Austin 13, Fairview 5 – Batting: C. Cullen 2-3, 2 RBI Pitching: C. Cullen 3.0 IP, 3 ER, 2 K

- Oakman 11, Holly Pond 0 – Batting: J. Miller 0-0 (HBP) Pitching: T. Harrison 2.2 IP, 3 ER, 2 K

- West Point 4, Arab 0 – Batting: B. Freeman 3-4 (2B), RBI Pitching: B. Freeman 7.0 IP, 1 H, 0 ER, 11 K, W

SOFTBALL

- Fairview 7, Cold Springs 6 – Batting: A. Wunderlich (Fair.) 3-4 (2B x3), 4 RBI – M. Gregory (Fair.) 1-3, walk-off RBI single Pitching: J. Griggs 2.2 IP, 0 ER, K, W

- Cullman 23, Arab 3 – Batting: D. Bates 2-2 (2B, HR), 5 RBI – D. Graham 2-2 (2B, HR), 5 RBI Pitching: D. Bates 3.0 IP, 3 ER, 2 K, W

- Gardendale 6, Good Hope 1 – Batting: K. Smith 2-4 – C. Koch 1-3, RBI Pitching: M. Benefield 7.0 IP, 3 ER, 8 K

- Hanceville 15, Vinemont 3 – Batting: K. Farr (Hance.) 4-4, RBI – K. Butler (Hance.) 3-4, RBI Pitching: K. Butler 5.0 IP, 2 ER, 9 K

- West Morgan 2, West Point 0 – Batting: A. Pruett 1-3 (2B) Pitching: Z. Love 5.0 IP, 0 ER, 4 K



Festival (from Front)

tulips are the answer! Everyone loves them."

Daniel said they will have a variety of handmade items from local vendors on-site on the farm.

Applications will be available online, or you may email bethanndaniel@gmail.com.

"Photography passes will be available," Daniel said. "We're also creating several custom photo ops including a large windmill in the tulip fields, a large mushroom, 'I Love Tulips' in colorful wooden letters, a vintage bike, colorful benches and more."

The Bunny Patch and Easter activities, including egg hunts, will return this year. Dates include March 28: 10 a.m.-6 p.m., March 29, 1-6 p.m. and April 3-4: 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

4D Farm is located at 7066 County Road 703 in Cullman.

To purchase tickets, see a full calendar of activities or get more information, visit 4dfamilyfarm.com.



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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LEGALS

Legal Notice

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
THOMAS CODY SOUTHEARD, * CASE NO.: PC2026-082
Deceased. *

Case# PC2026-082
PB MIN Book 241 Page 472
Recorded in Above Book and Page
03/11/2026 2:22PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Richard Thomas Southeard, as Personal Representative of the Estate of THOMAS CODY SOUTHEARD, deceased, on the 11th day of March, 2026, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Richard Thomas Southeard
Personal Representative

Johnny V. Berry
Attorney for the Petitioner
405 Second Avenue Southwest
Cullman, AL 35055

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 11th day of March, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 31
CONFIRMING AND ADOPTING THE RECOMMENDED
AND NOT RECOMMENDED LISTS OF TREES FOR PLANTING WITHIN THE CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Cullman has established a Tree Commission pursuant to its Urban Forestry Ordinance (Ordinance No. 1998, as amended or codified) to advise the Mayor and City Council on matters related to the care, preservation, expansion, and management of the City's urban forest; and

WHEREAS, the Tree Commission, in collaboration with the City Arborist, is tasked with recommending tree planting programs, appropriate tree species, and placement for public spaces, rights-of-way, and other municipal properties to promote tree health, diversity, safety, aesthetics, environmental benefits, and long-term sustainability; and

WHEREAS, on or about October 30, 2025, Barry Slatton, Chairman of the Cullman Tree Commission, presented to the City Council lists of trees recommended for planting within the City based on factors including shade provision, appearance, fall/winter color, hardiness in Cullman's climate (USDA Hardiness Zone 7b/8a), disease/invasive resistance, root characteristics, maintenance needs, and compatibility with urban conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Tree Commission also presented a list of trees not recommended for planting due to issues such as invasiveness, structural weaknesses, high maintenance, pest/disease susceptibility, poor adaptation to local soils/climate, excessive litter, aggressive roots, or other detriments to public infrastructure, safety, or the urban forest; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that formal adoption of these lists will guide public tree plantings, private developments requiring landscaping approvals, community tree sales/events, permitting processes, and general best practices to enhance Cullman's designation as a Tree City USA community and support overall urban forestry goals; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the recommendations and determines that confirming these lists is in the best interest of public health, safety, welfare, aesthetics, and environmental stewardship;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, as follows:

Section 1. Adoption of Lists. The lists of recommended trees and not recommended trees, as presented by the Cullman Tree Commission and attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (Recommended Trees for Planting in the City of Cullman) and **Exhibit B** (Not Recommended Trees for Planting in the City of Cullman), are hereby confirmed, adopted, and incorporated into this Ordinance by reference as if fully set forth herein. These lists shall serve as the official guidance for tree species selection in public plantings, rights-of-way, parks, and other City-managed areas, and are strongly encouraged for private properties, developments, and community initiatives.

Section 2. Purpose and Application. The adopted lists aim to: (a) Promote diverse, resilient, and aesthetically pleasing urban tree canopy; (b) Minimize risks from invasive species, weak-wooded trees, or those prone to failure; (c) Ensure compatibility with Cullman's soil types, climate, water availability, and urban constraints (e.g., utility lines, sidewalks, pavement); and (d) Support maintenance efficiency and long-term forest health.

The Tree Commission shall use these lists in reviewing planting proposals, public projects, and providing advice. Deviations may be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Tree Commission upon written justification demonstrating equivalent or superior benefits.

Section 3. Updates and Amendments. The Tree Commission may periodically review and recommend updates to the lists based on new research, performance observations, emerging threats (e.g., pests like emerald ash borer), or climate considerations. Any proposed amendments shall be presented to the City Council for consideration and adoption by ordinance.

Section 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

Section 5. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval, or as otherwise provided by law.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 23
TO CREATE A NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM WITHIN THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CULLMAN CITY COUNCIL, AS FOLLOWS:

Section I. Purpose.
1. The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide guidelines for the removal of blighted and/or dangerous structures and reconstruction of high-quality residential homes in the City of Cullman, Alabama, promoting the public good and general welfare of our citizens through promoting economic development, trade, commerce, housing, industry, and employment opportunities in the City of Cullman, Alabama.

Section II. Development Area.
1. Development Area is the corporate limits of the City of Cullman, Alabama.

Section III. Qualifying Structure.
1. A qualifying structure, as determined by the Building Official, is a blighted or dangerous "residential" structure that needs to be demolished and removed, which is located within the city limits of Cullman, Alabama.

Section IV. Residential Enhancement.
1. Residential Enhancement, subject to approval by the Building Official, is 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.

Section V. Non-Conforming Lots.
1. A Non-Conforming Lot is a property located in the city limits of Cullman that does not comply with the current zoning regulations due to subsequent changes in zoning laws.

Section VI. Neighborhood Enhancement Incentive Program.
1. Residential Enhancements, as defined in Section IV, on a non-conforming lot will qualify for reimbursement up to ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00).
2. The removal of a qualifying structure and replacing with a Residential Enhancement, as defined in Section IV, will qualify for reimbursement up to twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00).

Section VII. Legal Authority.
A. Amendment No. 772 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.
B. Compliance with Amendment No. 772:
1. Any proposed action under Amendment No. 772 must be taken at a public meeting.
2. Notice describing the proposed action and those individuals and/or businesses to benefit therefrom must be published at least seven days in advance.

Section VIII. Process.
A. Applications to and approval by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, upon recommendation by the Chief Building Official.
B. The Applications shall be in written format to Building Official.

Section IX. Program Requirements.
A. Improvements made in accordance with conditions and standards shall be approved by the City in advance.
B. Improvements made by licensed/bonded contractor(s).
C. Building permit obtained from the City prior to start of work.
D. Containers for debris removal and construction waste must be obtained from the City of Cullman.

Section X. Amount; Payment Aid.
A. (i) Up to $10,000.00 for Residential Enhancement on a non-conforming lot;
B. (ii) Up to $20,000.00 for the removal of a qualifying structure and replacing with a Residential Enhancement;
C. Paid upon written request with invoices of approved work after inspection and approval by the Building Official.

Section XI. Subject to Law-Imposed Requirement.
The amounts provided by the City under this program are, in accordance with Johnson v. Sheffield, 183 So. 265 (Ala. 1938), subject to the law-imposed requirement that, if necessary, there must first be paid from all funds and revenues of the City the legitimate and necessary governmental expenses of operating the City.

Section XII. Severability Clause.
Each and every provision of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and the holding of any provision hereof to be void or invalid for any reason shall not affect any other provision hereof, and it is declared that the other provisions of this Ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provisions which might have been invalid.

Section XIII. Effective Date.
This Ordinance shall be effective following its passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 20
TO AMEND THE CITY OF CULLMAN ZONING ORDINANCE

SECTION I. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Ordinance is to modify, amend, or delete portions of the current Zoning Ordinance.

SECTION II. The following section of the City of Cullman Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 62, "Zoning," Section 32, "Lots, yards and open spaces," of the *Code of Ordinances City of Cullman, Alabama*, is hereby deleted in its entirety and amended and replaced as follows:

Sec. 62-32. Lots, yards and open spaces.

(a) No part of a yard or other open space required about any structure may be included as part of a yard or open space required for another structure.

(b) No lot, yard, building site or open space may be reduced in area so that the lot, building site, yards or open spaces are less than the minimum required by the ordinance from which this chapter is derived. All yards, lots, building sites and open spaces created after the effective date of the ordinance from which this chapter is derived must meet the minimum requirements of this chapter.

(c) Every structure, other than an accessory structure, erected, altered, used or occupied must have its own separate building site.

(d) Exceptions and modifications.

(1) Where a lot of records do not conform to the requirements of the applicable district, the lot may nonetheless be used as a building site upon approval by the Building Official so long as they conform as closely as possible to the requirements of the district.

(2) The front yard setback may be reduced to the average front yard setback of existing buildings within 100 feet of a lot on the same block face and in the same district when the average is less than that required by the district. This is determined by the building official, who may refer to the commission for its consideration.

(3) On a corner lot nothing may be erected, placed, planted, or allowed to grow in such a manner that will obstruct a motorist's line of sight in accordance with AASHTO Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, latest addition.

(4) On any lot which, as of the effective date of the ordinance from which this chapter is derived, may be reduced in area by widening a public street to a future street line as indicated on the major street plan, the minimum required setbacks, lot areas, lot width and the maximum building area are measured by considering the future street lines as the lot lines of the lot.

(e) **REPORTING.** All determinations by the Building Official shall be reported to the Council at the next council meeting following said determination(s).

(f) **NOTICE.** The Building Department shall notify all Adjacent Property Owners upon application of the Property Owner for approval of a non-conforming use. Adjacent Property Owners are defined as any property contiguous to the subject property, including properties directly across from said subject property. Said notice shall be given by certified mail or hand delivery within seven (7) business days from the submission of the application. The Building Official shall notify the Property Owner and Adjacent Property Owner of decisions regarding applications for non-conforming use. Said notice shall be given by certified mail or hand delivery within seven (7) business days of the decision.

(g) **APPEAL.** The Property Owner shall have the right to appeal any decision of the Building Official. Said appeal shall be made in accordance with Ordinance 2-380, Ordinance 2-381 and Ordinance 62-181 et. seq. Any Adjacent Property Owner shall have the right to appeal any decision of the Building Official decision within fourteen (14) days of said decision and shall be in accordance with Ordinance 2-380, Ordinance 2-381, and Ordinance 62-181 et. seq.

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. Each and every provision of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and that holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid for any reason shall not affect any other provision hereof and it is hereby declared that the other provisions of this Ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might have been held invalid. This Ordinance repeals any prior Ordinance in conflict therewith.

SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be effective following its passage by the council, approval and publication as required by law .ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of)
)
Stacey L. Stewart,) Case No. PC 2026-078
)
Deceased)

Case# PC2026-078
PB MIN Book 241 Page 434
Recorded in Above Book and Page
03/10/2026 2:35PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Joe M. Stewart as Personal Representative of the Estate of Stacey L. Stewart, deceased, on the 10th day of March, 20 26, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Joe M. Stewart
Personal Representative
Joe M. Stewart

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.

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate / Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 834
Hanceville, Al 35077
256-352-2090

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARK ALLEN BENEFIELD, * **CASE NO.: PC 2026-028**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to KRISTI TAYLOR, as Personal Representative of the Estate of MARK ALLEN BENEFIELD, deceased, on the 11th day of March, 2026, 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.

Kristi Taylor
Personal Representative

Melvin Hasting
Attorney for Estate
407 2nd Avenue, SW
PO Box 517
Cullman, Alabama 35056

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.

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

1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
KENNETH F. JONES, * **CASE NO.: PC 2026-066**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to JENNIFER ANN HALE, as Personal Representative of the Estate of KENNETH F. JONES, deceased, on the 27th day of February, 2026, 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.

Jennifer Ann Hale
Personal Representative

Michael L. Thornton
Attorney for Estate
Law Offices of O'Neal, Thornton & Battles, LLC
200 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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.

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

1 Page(s)

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2026-105

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PEGGY LOVE CAYLOR, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Arnold Wyatt Caylor and Karen Caylor Woods on the 4th day of March, 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.

Arnold Wyatt Caylor and Karen Caylor Woods
Co-Personal Representatives

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 Representatives
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
DONNA D. RAKESTRAW, * **CASE NO.** PC2026-096
DECEASED *

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 27th day of February, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same be barred.

All claims must be filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Derek Rakestraw
DEREK RAKESTRAW
Personal Representative

Hugh C. Harris
Nancy F. McClellan
BLAND, HARRIS & McCLELLAN, P.C.
Attorneys for Estate of JANNIE D. QUATTLEBAUM
401 Second Avenue, SW, Suite 103
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2025-038

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LOIS MARIE SPEAKE, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Todd Adkinson on the 27th 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.

Todd Adkinson
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

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 32
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, Joseph Culpepper, 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: 4849. Parcel Number: 09-09-30-0-002-008.000. Property Address: 0 County Road 1273, Cullman, Alabama 35057.
Legal Description: A tract or parcel of land containing 37 acres of land, more or less, and being more particularly described as follows:
The Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, Section 30, Township 9 South, Range 3 West.
LESS AND EXCEPT: About 2 acres of land in the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 9, Range 3 West, and more particularly described as follows to wit: Beginning at the Southwest corner of above described forty acre tract, thence running North 295 feet thence at right angles East 295 feet, thence at right angles South 295 feet, thence West 295 feet to point of beginning, containing two (2) acres, more or less.
LESS AND EXCEPT: Commence at the Southeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 9 South, Range West, thence North 88 degrees 00 minutes West a distance of 362 feet to a point and the true point of beginning; thence continue North 88 degrees 00 minutes West a distance of 215 feet to a point; thence North 6 degrees 08 minutes 30 seconds West a distance of 207 feet to a point; thence North 89 degrees 58 minutes 16 seconds East a distance of 218.2 feet to a point; thence South 5 degrees 03 minutes East a distance of 214.25 feet to the point of beginning. Said land being in the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 9 South, Range 3 West in Cullman County, Alabama. Containing 1.05 acres more or less.
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 AG-1 Agricultural 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 COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 18
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, Big Sky Trading, LLC, the following describe the tracts or parcels of land, to-wit:
PPIN: 8563. Parcel No.: 09-08-33-2-005-007.000. Property Address: 2211 Second Avenue NW.
Commence at the intersection of the west right of way line of US Highway No. 31 with the north line of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 9 South, Range 3 West, then go in a southerly direction along said right of way line a distance of 976.7 feet to the point of beginning: thence go 90 degrees 00 minutes right a distance of 150 feet; thence go 90 degrees 00 minutes left a distance of 100 feet; thence go 90 degrees 00 minutes left a distance of 150 feet to a point on the west right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 31; thence go 90 degrees 00 minutes left along said right of way line a distance of 100 feet to the point of beginning. The above described land lies in the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 9 South, Range 3 West, in Cullman County, Alabama. Source of Title: Deed Book 539, Page 53.
within the city limits of Cullman, Alabama, and lying and being in Cullman County, State of Alabama, designated as R-1 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-1 Residential District to B-3 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 February, 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.
ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 21
TO AMEND THE CITY OF CULLMAN ZONING ORDINANCE

SECTION I. **PURPOSE**. The purpose of this Ordinance is to modify, amend, or delete portions of the current Zoning Ordinance.
SECTION II. The following section of the City of Cullman Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 62, "Zoning," Section 163, "Nonconforming Lots," of the *Code of Ordinances City of Cullman, Alabama*, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

Sec. 62-163. Nonconforming lots.

(a) *Vacant lots.* If the owner of a nonconforming vacant lot owns adjoining land that may be combined with it in order to comply with the requirements of this chapter, the lots may be combined before the city issues a building permit or any approval required by this chapter for development of the lots.

If the owner of a nonconforming vacant lot of record does not own sufficient adjoining land to enable compliance with the area and dimensional requirements of this chapter, one building and its accessory structures may be built provided they conform as closely as possible, **as determined by the Building Official**, to the requirements of the applicable district, and further provided that no side yard, where required to be greater than five feet, may be reduced to less than five feet.

(b) *Occupied lots.* Where multiple dwellings existed on one lot in the R-1 or R-2 District, on the effective date of April 8th, 1982, the owner may apply for a variance to subdivide the lot, so that each dwelling may be on its own lot, though the resulting lots may be smaller than required by this chapter. If a dwelling on such a lot is destroyed by fire or natural disaster, it may be rebuilt provided it conforms as closely as possible, **as determined by the Building Official**, to the district requirements.

(c) REPORTING. All determinations by the Building Official shall be reported to the Council at the next council meeting following said determination(s).

(d) NOTICE. The Building Department shall notify all Adjacent Property Owners upon application of the Property Owner for approval of a non-conforming use. Adjacent Property Owners are defined as any property contiguous to the subject property, including properties directly across from said subject property. Said notice shall be given by certified mail or hand delivery within seven (7) business days from the submission of the application. The Building Official shall notify the Property Owner and Adjacent Property Owner of decisions regarding applications for non-conforming use. Said notice shall be given by certified mail or hand delivery within seven (7) business days of the decision.

(e) APPEAL. The Property Owner shall have the right to appeal any decision of the Building Official. Said appeal shall be made in accordance with Ordinance 2-380, Ordinance 2-381 and Ordinance 62-181 et. seq. Any Adjacent Property Owner shall have the right to appeal any decision of the Building Official decision within fourteen (14) days of said decision and shall be in accordance with Ordinance 2-380, Ordinance 2-381, and Ordinance 62-181 et. seq.

SECTION III . SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. Each and every provision of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and that holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid for any reason shall not affect any other provision hereof and it is hereby declared that the other provisions of this Ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might have been held invalid. This Ordinance repeals any prior Ordinance in conflict therewith.
SECTION IV. **EFFECTIVE DATE**. This ordinance shall be effective following its passage by the council, approval and publication as required by law. ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 16
TO AMEND THE CITY OF CULLMAN ZONING ORDINANCE

SECTION I. **PURPOSE**. The purpose of this Ordinance is to modify, amend, or delete portions of the current Zoning Ordinance.
SECTION II. The following section of the City of Cullman Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 62, "Zoning," Section 165, "Reconstruction of damaged buildings or structures.," of the *Code of Ordinances City of Cullman, Alabama*, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

Sec. 62-165. - Reconstruction of damaged buildings or structures.

a) Any nonconforming dwelling damaged by fire, wind, flood, or other causes, may be repaired or rebuilt within the footprint and square footage of the nonconforming dwelling. The repairs or reconstruction must be initiated within one hundred and eighty (180) days and completed within three hundred and sixty-five (365) days of such damage. Other nonconforming structures damaged by fire, wind, flood or other causes up to sixty (60) percent of their value prior to the damage, may be repaired or rebuilt within the existing footprint and square footage. If the damage exceeds sixty (60) percent of the value of the structure, the structure must be made to conform to applicable zoning regulations, if repaired or rebuilt.
b) Any accessory structures such as storage buildings, detached garages, and similar buildings which have been damaged by fire, wind, flood, or other causes, must be brought into compliance with the requirements of the zoning district in which they are located.
c) Any single-family dwelling that has been declared a dangerous structure under Section 10-335 of the Code of Ordinances City of Cullman, Alabama, by the Building Official may be rebuilt within the same footprint provided that setbacks comply with the International Residential Code.
d) In order to promote economic vitality, community well-being and public safety, any Blighted Property that is residential may be demolished and rebuilt within the same footprint provided that setbacks comply with the International Residential Code. Blighted Property is defined as any property and/or structure that exhibits one or more of the following conditions:
    1) Structures that are unsafe, uninhabitable, or deteriorated,
    2) Abandoned, vacant, or boarded buildings,
    3) Repeated criminal activity or nuisance behavior involving said property,
    4) Presence of mold, vermin, stagnant water, fire hazards, or other conditions harmful to health or safety,
    5) Neglected, run-down and/or unsightly structures,
    6) Accumulation of trash, debris, or overgrown vegetation, or
    7) Conditions that pose a threat to public health or safety
e) **NOTICE.** The Building Department shall notify all Adjacent Property Owners upon application of the Property Owner for approval of a non-conforming use. Adjacent Property Owners are defined as any property contiguous to the subject property, including properties directly across from said subject property. Said notice shall be given by certified mail or hand delivery within seven (7) business days from the submission of the application. The Building Official shall notify the Property Owner and Adjacent Property Owner of decisions regarding applications for non-conforming use. Said notice shall be given by certified mail or hand delivery within seven (7) business days of the decision.
f) **APPEAL.** The Property Owner shall have the right to appeal any decision of the Building Official. Said appeal shall be made in accordance with Ordinance 2-380, Ordinance 2-381 and Ordinance 62-181 et. seq. Any Adjacent Property Owner shall have the right to appeal any decision of the Building Official decision within fourteen (14) days of said decision and shall be in accordance with Ordinance 2-380, Ordinance 2-381, and Ordinance 62-181 et. seq.

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. Each and every provision of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an independent provision and that holding of any provision hereof to be void and invalid for any reason shall not affect any other provision hereof and it is hereby declared that the other provisions of this Ordinance would have been enacted regardless of any provision which might have been held invalid. This Ordinance repeals any prior Ordinance in conflict therewith.
SECTION IV. **EFFECTIVE DATE**. This ordinance shall be effective following its passage, approval and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 30
AUTHORIZING THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS PERMITTING THE PROVISION OF WATER SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS OUTSIDE THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Cullman, Alabama (the "City"), operates and maintains a water system for the benefit of its residents and businesses within its corporate limits; and
WHEREAS, from time to time, property owners or residents located outside the corporate limits of the City may request connection to and service from the City's water system; and
WHEREAS, extending water service outside the corporate limits may promote public health, environmental protection, economic development, and orderly growth in the region surrounding the City; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to Alabama Code § 11-50-1 et seq., and other applicable laws, municipalities in the State of Alabama are authorized to extend public utilities, including water services, beyond their corporate limits under appropriate conditions; and
WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Cullman finds it in the public interest to establish a mechanism whereby it may authorize such extensions on a case-by-case basis through the adoption of resolutions, subject to terms and conditions that protect the City's interests, including but not limited to cost recovery, annexation requirements, and compliance with applicable regulations;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE II. WATER
DIVISION 2. CONNECTION PROCEDURES OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

Section 1. Authorization to Provide Service Outside Corporate Limits.
The City Council of the City of Cullman is hereby authorized to adopt resolutions, permitting the City to provide water service to customers located outside the corporate limits of the City. Prior to consideration of the above-mentioned resolution by the City Council, the superintendent over the clean water system shall provide a written recommendation on "why" or "why not" the city should connect the customer located outside the city limits. Each such resolution shall specify the terms and conditions under which the service shall be provided, which may include, but are not limited to:
(a) The location and description of the property or properties to be served;
(b) Requirements for the payment of connection fees, tap fees, impact fees, or other charges to cover the costs of extension and service;
(c) Conditions related to annexation of the property into the City, if applicable;
(d) Compliance with all applicable City ordinances, state and federal laws, and regulations governing water systems;
(e) Provisions for the maintenance, repair, and liability associated with the extension;
(f) Any other terms deemed necessary by the City Council to protect the public interest and the integrity of the City's water system.
Section 2. No Obligation Created.
Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to create any obligation on the part of the City to provide water service outside its corporate limits. All such extensions shall be at the sole discretion of the City Council and subject to the availability of capacity in the City's system.
Section 3. Severability.
If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.
Section 4. Repealer.
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.
Section 5. Effective Date.
This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 29
AUTHORIZING THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS PERMITTING THE PROVISION OF SANITARY SEWER SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS OUTSIDE THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Cullman, Alabama (the "City"), operates and maintains a sanitary sewer system for the benefit of its residents and businesses within its corporate limits; and
WHEREAS, from time to time, property owners or residents located outside the corporate limits of the City may request connection to and service from the City's sanitary sewer system; and
WHEREAS, extending sanitary sewer service outside the corporate limits may promote public health, environmental protection, economic development, and orderly growth in the region surrounding the City; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to Alabama Code § 11-50-1 et seq., and other applicable laws, municipalities in the State of Alabama are authorized to extend public utilities, including sanitary sewer services, beyond their corporate limits under appropriate conditions; and
WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Cullman finds it in the public interest to establish a mechanism whereby it may authorize such extensions on a case-by-case basis through the adoption of resolutions, subject to terms and conditions that protect the City's interests, including but not limited to cost recovery, annexation requirements, and compliance with applicable regulations;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE III. WASTEWATER
DIVISION 2. CONNECTION PROCEDURES OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

Section 1. Authorization to Provide Service Outside Corporate Limits.
The City Council of the City of Cullman is hereby authorized to adopt resolutions, permitting the City to provide sanitary sewer service to customers located outside the corporate limits of the City. Prior to consideration of the above-mentioned resolution by the City Council, the superintendent over the sanitary sewer system shall provide a written recommendation on "why" or "why not" the city should connect the customer located outside the city limits. Each such resolution shall specify the terms and conditions under which the service shall be provided, which may include, but are not limited to:
(a) The location and description of the property or properties to be served;
(b) Requirements for the payment of connection fees, tap fees, impact fees, or other charges to cover the costs of extension and service;
(c) Conditions related to annexation of the property into the City, if applicable;
(d) Compliance with all applicable City ordinances, state and federal laws, and regulations governing sanitary sewer systems;
(e) Provisions for the maintenance, repair, and liability associated with the extension;
(f) Any other terms deemed necessary by the City Council to protect the public interest and the integrity of the City's sanitary sewer system.
Section 2. No Obligation Created.
Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to create any obligation on the part of the City to provide sanitary sewer service outside its corporate limits. All such extensions shall be at the sole discretion of the City Council and subject to the availability of capacity in the City's system.
Section 3. Severability.
If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.
Section 4. Repealer.
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.
Section 5. Effective Date.
This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 28
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the City of Cullman ("City") owns certain real property acquired through purchase, donation, dedication, foreclosure, or other lawful means; and
WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish clear, transparent, and equitable procedures for the sale of City-owned real property to ensure the City receives fair market value and maintains public confidence in municipal transactions; and
WHEREAS, the City Council finds that requiring independent appraisals, public notice, and competitive sale methods promotes accountability, fiscal responsibility, and compliance with applicable Alabama law; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:

CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION
ARTICLE VII. SURPLUS PROPERTY

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT
The purpose of this ordinance is to establish uniform procedures governing the sale of real property owned by the City of Cullman in order to:
a) Ensure the City receives fair market value for property sold;
b) Promote transparency and public notice;
c) Provide competitive and equitable opportunities for purchase;
d) Protect the City from conflicts of interest or improper disposition of public assets;
e) Comply with all applicable state and local laws.

SECTION 2. APPLICABILITY
a) This ordinance shall apply to the sale of all real property owned by the City of Cullman, including land, buildings, and interests therein, unless otherwise exempted by state law or specific Council action due to unique circumstances.
b) This ordinance shall not apply to equipment, vehicles, and other smaller capital assets that are to be sold through a public auction or an online auction platform.

SECTION 3. AUTHORIZATION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF CULLMAN
a) No real property owned by the City of Cullman shall be sold without:
    i) A formal ordinance adopted by the City Council authorizing the sale; and
    ii) Compliance with the procedures set forth in the code of ordinances of the City of Cullman.
b) The City Council retains final authority to approve or reject any proposed sale.

SECTION 4. APPRAISAL REQUIREMENTS
a) Prior to offering any real property for sale, the City shall obtain one (1) independent appraisal on properties valued under thirty thousand ($30,000.00) dollars by the Cullman County Revenue Commissioner's Office and shall obtain two (2) independent appraisals on properties valued thirty thousand ($30,000.00) dollars or more by the Cullman County Revenue Commissioner's Office.
    i) Appraisals shall:
        (1) Be conducted by licensed or certified real estate appraisers;
        (2) Be completed within twelve (12) months prior to the date of sale, unless waived by Council due to market conditions;
        (3) Reflect fair market value based on the highest and best use of the property.
b) The minimum sale price shall be the amount of the highest appraisal received plus any surveying costs, appraisal costs, legal fees, and any other fees associated with the sale of the property.

SECTION 5. PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS
Prior to the sale of real property owned by the City, public notice shall be provided as follows:
a) Newspaper Publication
    i) Notice shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the City not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the sale or bid deadline.
b) City Website
    i) Notice shall be posted on the City's official website for a minimum of fourteen (14) consecutive days.
c) City Social Media Platforms
    i) Notice shall be posted on official City social media platforms to increase public awareness.
d) Public notice shall include:
    i) A general description of the property;
    ii) The method of sale of the property;
    iii) Instructions for submitting bids or offers;
    iv) The minimum sale price;
    v) The date, time, and location of bid opening or auction.

SECTION 6. METHODS OF SALE
The City Council may authorize the sale of real property by using one or more of the following methods:
a) Competitive Sealed Bids
    i) Property may be sold through a competitive sealed bid process as long as the minimum sale price is met or exceeded.
    ii) Bids shall be submitted in writing by a specified deadline.
    iii) Bids shall be opened publicly at a stated time and place.
    iv) The City reserves the right to:
        (1) Reject any or all bids;
        (2) Waive minor irregularities;
        (3) Accept the bid determined to be in the City's best interest.
b) Public Auction
    i) Property may be sold at public auction as long as the minimum sale price is met or exceeded.
    ii) Auctions may be conducted in person, online, or by a licensed auctioneer.
    iii) The highest appraisal received by the City shall plus any surveying costs, appraisal costs, legal fees, and any other fees associated with the sale of the property will establish the minimum sale price for the auction.
c) Alternative Procedure for alleys, rights-of-way, and other properties without road frontage valued under thirty thousand ($30,000.00) dollars by the Cullman County Revenue Commissioner's Office.
    i) The minimum sale price shall be the amount of the highest appraisal received plus any surveying costs, appraisal costs, legal fees, and any other fees associated with the sale of the property.
    ii) Adjoining property owners shall have the option to divide said property as long as the established minimum sale price is met or exceeded as allowed under Code of Alabama.

SECTION 7. FAIR MARKET VALUE SAFEGUARDS
No real property owned by the City shall be sold for less than its fair market value plus any surveying costs, appraisal costs, legal fees, and any other fees associated with the sale of the property as required by state law.
SECTION 8. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
All transactions shall comply with Alabama ethics laws.
SECTION 9. CLOSING AND CONVEYANCE
a) All approved sales shall be closed in accordance with standard real estate practices.
b) The Mayor is authorized to execute deeds and related documents upon Council approval.
c) All proceeds from the sale shall be deposited into the appropriate City fund as determined by Treasurer.

SECTION 10. SEVERABILITY
If any provision of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions
SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE
This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and publication as required by law. ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Kim Hall - President of City Council. **ATTESTED BY:** /s/Wesley M. Moore - City Clerk. **APPROVED** this the 9th day of March, 2026. /s/Woody Jacobs – Mayor.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Good Hope, will hold a public hearing on 3/23/26 at 6:30 pm at Good Hope City Hall, 135 Municipal Drive, Cullman, AL 35055. At this time anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 005-2026, Request to Re-Zone from B2 w/ Restrictive Access to GB , will be given an opportunity to be heard.

Christie Chamblee, City Clerk

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
MYRA S. WARD,) CASE NO. PC-2025- 329
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Co-Letters Testamentary having been granted to Carolyn Ward Blankenship, and Ralph Stephen Ward, also known as Steve Ward, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of Myra S. Ward, deceased, on the 24th day of February, 2026, 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.

Carolyn Ward Blankenship
Co-Personal Representative of the Estate of
Myra S. Ward, deceased

Ralph Stephen Ward,
also known as Steve Ward
Co-Personal Representative of the Estate of
Myra S. Ward, deceased

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Beverly Paschal Poston (PAS001)
Attorney for the Estate of
Myra S. Ward, deceased.
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256) 739-3970

Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate
Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
JEWEL MCCARN HALL, * CASE NO. PC 2026 - 008
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE: Letters Testamentary having been granted to Daniel Mosley and Ashley Mosley as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Jewel McCarn Hall, deceased, on the 12th day of March, 2026, 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.

Daniel Mosley
Personal Representative

Ashley Mosley
Personal Representative

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

Attorney for Personal Representatives

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, PROBATE JUDGE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARION LOUISE MCDANIEL, * **CASE NO.: PC2026-064**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Rebbecca S. Underwood, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Marion Louise McDaniel, deceased, on the 5th day of March, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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.

DONE this the 5th day of March, 2026.

Rebbecca S. Underwood
Personal Representative

Alexander M. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
PO Box 8
121 1st Avenue East
Oneonta, AL 35121
(205) 625-5505

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

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

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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 Inez Chambers and Leonard Ray Chambers A/K/A Ray Chambers, wife and husband, Kim Brown F/K/A Kim Chambers, a married woman and Gene Brown, her husband to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns dated April 8, 2016; said mortgage being recorded on April 22, 2016 in Deed Book 1785, Page 938 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 392, Page 559 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc., under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on April 9, 2026 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

BEGINNING AT THE CENTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 35 TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 1 EAST, THENCE NORTH 87 DEGREES 33 MINUTES EAST 408.12 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 20 DEGREES 27 MINUTES EAST 377.82 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH MARGIN OF A PUBLIC ROAD AND THE WEST MARGIN OF U.S. HIGHWAY 231 AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING FOR THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED; THENCE SOUTH 9 DEGREES 55 MINUTES EAST 420 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE SOUTH 83 DEGREES 28 MINUTES WEST 155 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE JOSEPH MASON LOT; THENCE NORTH 9 DEGREES 55 MINUTES WEST 420 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH MARGIN OF A PUBLIC ROAD; THENCE NORTH 83 DEGREES 28 MINUTES EAST 155 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Said property is commonly known as **800 County Road 1838, Arab, AL 35016**.

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. Bidders must perform their own due diligence. 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.

February 26, 2026

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, will go into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including nonjudicial foreclosures) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. As part of this Rule, purchasers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and the source of funds used in the reportable transaction. The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258.

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC.
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 24-06044AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
02/28/2026,03/07/2026,03/14/2026

24-06044AL

Obituary Announcements: March 12-13

Jerry Don Payne, 77
Jerry Don Payne, a cherished member of the Hanceville community and a decorated veteran, passed away on March 10, 2026, in Hanceville, Alabama, at the age of 77. Born on May 20, 1948, in Cullman, Alabama, Jerry lived a life characterized by service, dedication, and love for his family and country. A proud veteran, Jerry served as a Specialist 5 in the Vietnam War, earning numerous commendations for his bravery and commitment. His military honors included the National Defense Medal, the Parachutist Badge, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign, and an Overseas Bar. His legacy of service is a testament to his character and love for his nation. Jerry leaves behind a loving family who will miss him dearly. He is survived by his children, Jeri Brown, Terry Payne, and Chris Gamble (Tasha); as well as his grandchildren, Kyle Brown (Chelsy), Logan Starnes (Katie), Tyler Payne, Jacob Payne (Emma), Abigail Payne, Madison Gamble, and Caelan Carnes (Emily). Additionally, he is remembered fondly by a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Carmen Payne; his parents, Frank and Ossie Payne; and his siblings, Doris George, Thomas Payne "Bud", and Sharon Hood. Their memories will forever be cherished as part of his life story. Visitation services will be held at Hanceville Funeral Home on March 13, 2026, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The funeral service will also take place at Hanceville Funeral Home on March 14, 2026, at 10 a.m. Burial will follow the service at Antioch Cemetery. Jerry Don Payne's life was a reflection of love for family, pride in service, and enduring spirit. He will be missed profoundly by all who knew and loved him.

Billy Wayne Veal, 68
Billy Wayne Veal, 68, a lifelong resident of Cullman, passed away peacefully on March 9, 2026. Born to Billy Ray and Yvonne Veal on Aug. 27, 1957; he graduated from Fairview High School. Mr. Veal was a talented songwriter who loved all things rock music, sci-fi books, movies and sports. Mr. Veal loved his Packers as long as Brett Favre was out of retirement. He'd watch any basketball game that was playing, but his favorite team would always be whatever team LeBron James was playing for that season. Most notably was his love of Alabama football. He was their biggest fan, and wasn't afraid to let everyone know it, even after death. Those who visit him Sunday will know what I mean. Rollllll Tide! Preceded in death by his parents, Billy Ray and Yvonne Veal; brother, Michael Veal; sister, Debra Olinger; grandchild, Meridian Jade Veal; and nephew, Michael Ricky Olinger. Billy leaves behind his children, Shawn (Donita) Veal, Yvonne (Matthew) Sandomir, Nathan Veal, Cameron Veal, Wayne Veal and Kerstyn White; grandchildren, Marissa Legere, Mallory Legere, Gregory Veal, Bella Veal, Ayden Veal and Madelyn Veal; nieces, Sammi (Andrew) Arbet and Katrina Olinger; and nephew, Chris (Amanda) Olinger. Visitation will be at Cullman Funeral Home, 461 U.S. Highway 278 E, Cullman, AL 35055, on Sunday, March 15, 2026, from noon-2 p.m., Services will begin at 2 p.m., followed by burial at Etha Baptist Church Cemetery, 8417 County Road 1545, Cullman.

RonaldPaulPeebles,46
Ronald Paul Peebles, age 46 of Logan, Alabama, passed away on Monday, March 9, 2026, at his residence. He was born Feb. 10, 1980, to Ronald Peebles and Vickie Kellum Brewster. He was preceded in death by his father and grandparents. Survivors include his daughter, Mary Jane Sedberry; sons, Matthew Rouse; Isaac Peebles and Elijah Peebles; brothers, Jason Peebles, Joseph Peebles and Andrew Peebles (Chrissy); nieces, Madilyne & Laci Peebles; nephews Ronald & Maxieus Peebles; mother, Vickie Brewster; grandmother, Elouise Peebles and a host of other family and friends. No services are planned at this time.

Barry Dean Woods, 67
It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Barry Dean Woods, 67, of Cullman, Alabama, who passed away on March 12, 2026, in Cullman, Alabama. Born on April 19, 1958, Barry was a loving father and grandfather and will be deeply missed. He is survived by his two sons, Chris Woods and Zach Stephens, his grandchildren, his brother (triplet) Larry Woods, brother Eddie Woods, and Jackie Woods. Many nieces and nephews also survive him. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family.

Cullman Funeral Home and Crematory
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Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.



WALLACE STATE

Representatives of five businesses were on hand to sign Powerful Partnership agreements with Wallace State Community College. From left are Josh Veres of Augusta's Sports Grill, Daniel Green and Shawn Troughton of Plus One Heating & Air, Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics, Jake Minor of Lawn Doctor, Paige Dowdy and Serengeti of Happy Tails Groom & Board, TJ Franey and Tanya Knight of the Cullman County Board of Education and Simone Grant of Wallace State. Not pictured is Matt Lee of Lee's Veterinary Hospital.

6 new members sign on with Wallace State Powerful Partnerships

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. - Wallace State Community College welcomed six new members as participants in the Powerful Partnership initiative, bringing the total number of participants to 30 taking advantage of the free program.

"One of the things that makes a community college a community college is the partnerships that we share within our community, and you are so important to what we are doing," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics. "We are honored that you would consider joining with us in these Powerful Partnership agreements that are mutually beneficial to all of us."

Since Powerful Partnerships launched in September 2024, the program has already made a strong impact, with 126 students benefiting from more than $10,000 in combined tuition savings for participating employees and their families, said Suzanna Harbin, vice president for advancement and innovation.

The signing ceremony for the new organizations affirmed their commitment to providing those same opportunities to their employees, Harbin added.

The six new members include Augusta's Sports Grill, the Cullman County Board of Education, Happy Tails Groom & Board, Lawn Doctor, Lee's Veterinary Hospital and Plus One Heating & Air.

"Plus One is participating in Wallace State's Powerful Partnership Program to strengthen the connection between education and industry," said Co-Owner Daniel Green. "We believe in investing in the next generation of skilled professionals while creating meaningful career pathways that support both student success and the long-term growth of our workforce."

Benefits provided to businesses and industry that join the Powerful Partnership program include:

• 10% tuition discount on up to six credit hours in academic courses for degree- and certificate-seeking students and Pro Skills Workforce training courses per semester for employees and their immediate families; this applies to employee-paid and employee-sponsored training

• 10% discount on customized training

• Complimentary evaluation of previously earned educational credits, training and professional certifications and work experience for consideration of prior learning towards academic credit

• Complimentary access to meeting spaces at the Wallace State Workforce Training Center

• Wallace State Alumni Memberships for up to five employees

• Special sponsor rate for the Wallace State Future Foundation Student Investment Luncheon

• Access to a pipeline of workers prepared for internships, apprenticeships and employment through priority registration for Industry Comes to Wallace State

• A Powerful Partner registration rate for the annual WSCC Career Fair

• Featured as a Powerful Partner through various marketing avenues

• A role on Wallace State's program advisory boards and Business and Industry Leadership Teams (BILTs) to provide guidance for instructional technology

• Opportunity to receive access to Athens State University's Learning Partnership program

This comprehensive set of benefits ensures that businesses are not just passively involved, but actively engaged in shaping Wallace State's educational programs to better meet industry demands. By participating in advisory boards and leadership teams, companies can directly influence the development of future workers, creating a well-prepared labor force that meets their specific needs.

For more information about the Powerful Partnerships program and how your business can get involved, contact Simone Grant at simone.grant@wallacestate.edu or 256-352-7453.

Alabama Extension celebrates America with 250 Pound Challenge

Mike Clardy
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. - In celebration of America's 250th anniversary this year, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System is issuing a bold statewide challenge. As part of the Grow More, Give More initiative, the new 250 Pound Challenge hopes to encourage gardeners to share their bounty.

The goal of the 250 Pound Challenge is for gardeners in every county to contribute to growing and donating 250 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables through the Grow More, Give More initiative.

Bethany O'Rear, home horticulture agent for Alabama Extension at Auburn University, has led the Grow More, Give More project since 2020.

"The roots of Grow More, Give More date back to the pandemic," O'Rear said. "It was a modern-day Victory Garden approach. Since the beginning, we've encouraged gardeners to plant an extra row with the purpose of donating the surplus. Alabama Extension resources help participants succeed in growing and connect them with places that accept donations. Now, the 250 Pound Challenge will take the Grow More, Give More initiative to a new level."

250 Pound Challenge participation

The 250 Pound Challenge will run from Memorial Day, May 25, through Labor Day, Sept. 7. O'Rear said participating in the 250 Pound Challenge is simple.

"The first step is planting a garden this spring and adding an extra row or a few more container plants than usual," O'Rear said. "When it's time to harvest, intentionally set the extra aside as a donation.

"All donations count — whether you give to a local food bank, community kitchen, place of worship or even a family member or neighbor. Just remember to weigh and record the pounds of produce you donate."

For amounts to count toward county totals, gardeners must report donations through an online survey. The link to that survey is available on the 250 Pound Challenge web page at aces.edu/go/250Challenge. People can also access the survey at aces.edu/go/Give-More, which includes a link to county-specific donation sites that accept fresh produce.

"We hope this challenge will encourage some friendly competition among various county groups," O'Rear said. "Gardeners can be part of this challenge on their own, or they can join in with others. This might be the perfect time to work together to start a community garden and donate the extra produce through the challenge."

O'Rear said gardeners can grow any crops they choose, but certain types may help gardeners reach their growing goal faster.

"Some of the hardiest and best-producing options in Alabama include beans, squash, cucumbers, zucchini, peppers, tomatoes, southern peas and okra," O'Rear said. "Of course, a few donations of watermelons and cantaloupes will tip the scales toward 250 pounds quickly!"

Making a difference while celebrating America

Food insecurity remains a serious issue across Alabama, affecting approximately 2 million residents, including 1 in 4 children. Grow More, Give More empowers home gardeners to be part of the solution.

"In a year when we celebrate 250 years of our nation's history, we have an opportunity to show what service and community truly mean," O'Rear said.

"If every county grows and gives just 250 pounds of fresh produce, the collective impact will be powerful. This is about neighbors helping neighbors — and Extension helping make it happen."

In 2025, Grow More, Give More participants donated 21,563 pounds of produce, benefiting thousands of Alabama families. Extension leaders hope the 250 Pound Challenge will significantly increase that impact in 2026.

"We know Alabama gardeners are generous," O'Rear said. "This is a simple but meaningful way for individuals, families, Extension Master Gardeners and community groups to celebrate our country's legacy by strengthening our local communities."

More information

The program and the corresponding challenge are open to gardeners of all experience levels. Alabama Extension provides research-based resources for container gardens, raised beds and traditional in-ground gardens, along with pest management and production guidance.

Find more information at aces.edu by searching Grow More, Give More or 250 Pound Challenge. For additional assistance, contact O'Rear at bao0004@aces.edu or 205-612-9524. Gardeners can also reach out to their local Extension home horticulture agent.







COLUMN

Lessons from a locksmith

Joe Hobby
Contributor

It seems there's so much nastiness, rudeness and hate in the world now. It's everywhere, and it makes me sicker than the thought of drinking warm buttermilk. If not for football and HGTV, I would consider throwing my TV away. And without Candy Crush and calls from my granddaughter, my iPhone could probably go, too. But occasionally you run across someone who gives you hope - someone that gives you the notion that maybe most people are good, and the venom-filled trolls on TV and social media are in the minority. That happened to me not too long ago.

I was walking my dogs last night and stopped to speak to Nell, one of my neighbors. She's been widowed for some time now.

She also has dementia. This makes living alone a challenge. Until recently, a relative was staying with her. But no more. That's a story for another time.

Nell had locked herself out of her house. Knowing there was no one there to help, I drafted myself into neighborly service. I began by checking doors and asking questions.

There was no hidden key and she didn't remember the correct garage door code. Furthermore, she knew only one phone number, which she thought was her son's. Spoiler alert: it wasn't. The good news is he lived nearby. The bad news is they had a contentious relationship and weren't on speaking terms. No matter. When texts and direct phone calls went nowhere, we got in my truck and went house hunting.

The combination of darkness and dementia made finding the house almost impossible. So, I contacted the authorities. The policeman was great.

He escorted us to the correct home, and together we rang the doorbell, scaring the heck out of the new homeowners. That's not a typo. Her son had sold the house and moved to Texas a few months ago. So much for Nell getting a Mother's Day card.

The only option left was to return to her house and contact a locksmith. I made the call, and in about 15 minutes a van arrived and a friendly man emerged. He listened to our problem, asked a few questions, then went to work.

In no time at all we were in the garage. Unfortunately, the door from the basement to the house was locked. No matter. This man is to picking locks what DaVinci is to painting. Almost casually, he twisted a little metal rod in the keyhole and the door knob turned. In the house at last! The dilemma was over - so I thought.

Now all we needed was for Nell to get her credit card and house key. Then I could go home to reheat my supper. Crisis over. Unless the homeowner has dementia. As I should have known, Nell couldn't find her key or her wallet. All three of us searched the entire house and came up empty. The locksmith had seen enough.

"Don't worry about it. There's no charge. I was glad to do this."

I shook my head and said, "That's not right. Come on down to my house and I'll pay you."

"No. This business has been good to me. And I have a mom with a similar problem. I'm glad to give back to someone. Really. Don't worry about it."

"Can I at least pay you for the keys you made?"

"No. Don't worry about it. Really."

And with that, the kind locksmith got in his van and left. After I got Nell settled down, I gave her a hug, got in my truck and drove two blocks to my house.

Tears welled up in my eyes. In just three short hours I had seen a lot: the ravages of a horrible disease, the cruel indifference of family, the concern of a police officer and the kindness of a stranger toward another human being. I chose to believe the tears I shed were for the kind locksmith.

I'm not sure that the locksmith will remember what happened at Nell's home five years from now. I don't think it's the first (or the last) time he was so kind. It's just the way he does things. But it is indelibly etched in my mind. In a nasty world, more of us should be like this guy. Kindness is a choice that can make a difference, one person at a time. And I'm happy to say I saw that firsthand.

Joe Hobby is a barbecue-loving comedian from Alabama who wrote for Jay Leno for many years. Find more of Joe's stories on his blog: www.mylifeasahobby.blogspot.com. Follow him on Facebook at Joe Hobby Comedian-Writer.







Certified arborist training planned for March 23-24 in Cullman

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. - Arborists and others interested in tree care will have an opportunity later this month to attend certified arborist training in Cullman.

The training is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, March 23-24, from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the North Alabama Agriplex.

According to event information provided by organizers, the program is designed as an opportunity for participants to prepare for the ISA certified arborist exam or receive continuing education units.

Registration is $25. Organizers said the training will be hosted in Cullman and encouraged those interested to register in advance.

The event is being promoted as a chance for arborists and others in the field to sharpen their knowledge while preparing for certification testing or earning CEUs.

Those interested in attending can get more information and register online at www.aces.edu/event/arborists-review.

The North Alabama Agriplex is located at 1714 Tally Ho St., Cullman, AL 35055.

For news tips, questions or corrections, contact The Cullman Tribune at news@cullmantribune.com.

Hartselle High School Theatre to present 'Big Fish: School Edition' April 7-12

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

HARTSELLE, Ala. - Hartselle High School Theatre will present its spring production of "Big Fish: School Edition" April 7-12 at the Hartselle High School auditorium. The show is for audiences of all ages.

Based on the original novel by Daniel Wallace and the Columbia Motion Picture film directed by Tim Burton, the musical follows Edward Bloom, a traveling salesman known for his incredible stories about giants, mermaids and witches, among other fantastical elements.

As his son Will grows older, however, he begins searching for the truth behind his father's tales, leading to a heartfelt story about family, legacy and the stories that shape our lives.

Student Marketing Assistant Alida Stinson shared how the production has been a meaningful experience for herself and the other students involved.

"As a student involved in this production, I am incredibly proud of the imagination and heart our team has poured into this story," Stinson said.

"'Big Fish' explores the powerful bond between fathers and sons through 'larger-than-life' tall tales involving giants, witches and circus performers. It's a deeply moving story about legacy and the stories we leave behind, themes that have truly resonated with our entire cast."

With any large-scale production comes tons of preparation. The Hartselle theatre department has spent months preparing the show, working to bring the musical's colorful and whimsical world to center stage.

"Our performers and crew have been working tirelessly to bring this fantastical world to life," Stinson said.

"From the music to the iconic field of daffodils that fans of the story know and love, there is so much creativity and passion going into this production."

Performances will begin with a Friends and Family Preview on April 7 at 7 p.m. Evening performances will follow April 9-11 at 7 p.m., with a matinee performance scheduled for April 12 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available online at https://gofan.co/app/school/AL1001_1. Admission is $12 for students and seniors, $15 for adults and $25 for reserved seating. The April 7 Friends and Family preview performance is $8.

"Whether you are a fan of the original book, the movie or simply love a great musical, this is a 'big' event you won't want to miss," Stinson added.

For additional information about the production or tickets, contact Hartselle Drama Director Lisa King at 256-612-1208 or lisa.king@hartselletigers.org.

The Hartselle High School auditorium is located at 1000 Bethel Road, Hartselle, AL 35640.







BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Things don't last like they once did

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



If Murphy's Law is, "Anything that can go wrong, will go wrong," the Mechanical Law would be, "What can break down, will break down." That's the one that ruled at our house last week.

My parents had most of the same appliances the entire time I lived at home. I think they bought them at a yard sale Noah had after he got off the ark. They had a freezer that lasted for about 55 years earlier. It was a commercial-type chest freezer that was about the same length as the USS Alabama. It was still running and freezing when Mom went to Heaven.

Back in those days, we had two televisions. No, not at the same time, but two total. We probably would have had only one, but the first one was a black-and-white set, so when color television came out, Dad had to have one. We didn't throw them out when they quit working; we called the TV repairman. Sometimes it took him weeks, if not months, to get it working again. These days there are no TV repairmen, so when our television quits, we simply throw it out and go buy a new one. Fortunately, they aren't as expensive as they once were.

I'm not sure how many water heaters Mom had, but I only remember one. Jean and I have lived in our current house for almost 17 years. This week, we replaced our water heater for the second time. The first one came with the house and flooded the ground floor when the tank rusted through. The second one was 12 years old and started leaking last week when it rusted through. Those things must be like northern cars on salted roads; except, I don't think we have salt in our water. This time we caught the leak in time before it flooded the house, or so we thought. After the installers had everything hooked up and water running, we discovered water also running through the ceiling in the kitchen. A capped water line in the attic blew its cap when they turned the water back on. The leak soaked four boxes of family photos that were stored in the attic. We managed to rescue almost all of them.

We had bought a new faucet for our kitchen sink. I had planned to install it myself, but I simply had not found time in the last two years... or was it three? I can do some plumbing, if you don't mind if it leaks a little. Since we already had the plumbers there, I figured it wouldn't cost much to get them to install it. I missed the mathematics because I figured incorrectly. The good news was that the new faucet did not leak.

With everything dry, and hot water flowing, we were good to go with everything working. Since we had not been able to run the dishwasher for a couple of days, it was loaded with dirty dishes and waiting for hot water. I put in a pod, pushed the button and went to bed. The next morning, when I went to put up the clean dishes, I discovered they were still dirty. I pushed the button again, only to I realize I didn't hear water running. I thought, I hoped, I prayed, that they had accidently left the water turned off to the dishwasher. Mechanical Law showed up once more. We now have a new dishwasher to go with the new water heater.

Hey, when it was all said and done, nobody died, nobody is even sick and we have a house full of new appliances.

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com.

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: March 14, 1946

From the files of March 14, 1946

Eidson Chapel News
Mrs. Ella Thomason celebrated her 59th birthday Sunday, March 10th. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Thomason and son, Hubert, J. W. Bush, Miss Lena Landman, Hazel Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Thomason.

104 were present at Sunday school here Sunday.

J. A. Thomason went to Guntersville, Saturday.

Hobert Gillery, Mr. and Mrs. Collie B. Bryan, were at Arab, Saturday.

Dewey Kelsoe, C. W. Thomas, O. C. Thomas, W. S. Laney, John and O. Anderton, Helen Anderton, Dorothy Tennyson and Bettie Sue Tennyson were at Cullman Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oberlee Tennyson visited Mr. and Mrs. Luther Berry of Albertville last week-end.

The Lindsay sisters made music at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Butler, Sunday afternoon.

G. W. Ponder of Cullman, has bought out the old gin stand of Brown Gin Co. at Arab, he will put up a gin and cotton warehouse. Capacity will be 20,000 bales of cotton.

W. B. Lindsay went to Cullman, Saturday.

Bethany News
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Stricklin and Mrs. Doris Stricklin Harbison left Thursday for Mobile. Mr. and Mrs. Stricklin are going to work and Mrs. Harbison is going to join her husband Ray, who is with the Merchant Marines and his ship is docked there for a few weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Eady and Mavis and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Williams spent the week-end in LaGrange, Ga. with Mrs. Eady's mother, Mrs. Viola Daniel and Hazel.

Mr. and Mrs. Verbon McSwain and baby of Brushy Pond spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Williams.



POET'S CORNER

My Grandsons | Randy C. Hale

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

My grandsons,
I hold on my shoulder
will one day come see me
when older.

We'll set at the table,
eat some good food
talk of our day
and what we will do.

We'll set on the front porch,
make up silly rhymes,
laugh when we say them
in the passing of time.

My grandsons,
I hold on my shoulder,
will one day come see me
when they are much older.

We'll go to the car,
I'll teach them to drive,
and one day i'll wave
as they go out of sight.

They'll pick them a bride
to be at their side,
be a father like me
in the passing of time.

My grandsons,
I hold on my shoulder,
will one day come see me
when I am much older.

They'll stand by my bedside
with love in their eyes,
reminding me of things
we did in our lives.

This bond that we bear
shall never end,
for I will be there
in memories shared.

And one day they'll be
a grandpa like me,
repeating those same silly rhymes,
all in the passing of time.

Note: I wrote this poem when grandsons were small. Jackson just turned 12 and Jace is 13 today. They have truly been a joy.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

MARCH 14

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

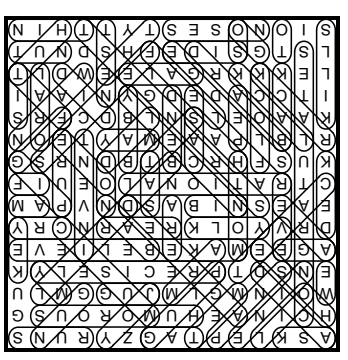
Acid
Age
Agreed
Am
Are
Arm
Ask
Baby
Back
Bad
Ban
Bend
Board
Case
Cave
Cry
Deck
Did
Drill
Era
Ever
Fat
Fences
Flock
Fog
Gale
Go
Gun
Has
Hose
Humorous
Hut
If
Invent
Joy
Jug
Key
Kills
Lack
Lad
Leaf
May
Met
Month
Music
My
Nest
Nib
Nicely
Nine
Nod
Noses
Nut
Oil
One
Oral
Pea
Pig
Plug
Precisely
Pure
Rack
Rational
Rear
Runs
Sat
Set
Side
Sit
Sledge
Snap
So
Strangest
Tag
The
Thin
To
Vet
Warn
We
Yolk

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

MARCH 14

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

ANSWERS:



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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MARCH 14, 2026

ADPH asks for input to improve health in your local community

Staff Reports
Contributor



ADPH

The 2026 Community Health Opinion Survey is part of the State Health Assessment that ADPH utilizes to identify health issues and challenges at the community level.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - The Alabama Department of Public Health's (ADPH) mission is to promote, protect and improve Alabama's health and provide the people of Alabama with the highest quality service possible. To reach this goal, ADPH would like to hear from its residents!

The 2026 Community Health Opinion Survey is part of the State Health Assessment that ADPH utilizes to identify health issues and challenges at the community level.

Based on this information, the department can better serve Alabama residents by addressing their highest-priority needs.

The survey is for those aged 18 or older and should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Participation is voluntary, and all responses will be kept confidential.

To access the survey, visit https://tinyurl.com/ADPH-Survey2026.

For more information, please contact Sondra Reese at Sondra.Reese@adph.state.al.us.



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