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OBITUARIES

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WEATHER

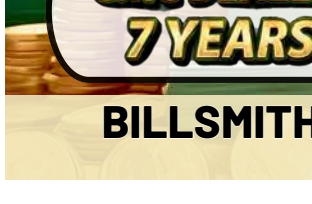
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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

FROST THEN SUNNY

Arrests and Incidents
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WEST POINT XC/T&F

–SPORTS–

West Point, Fairview among others with impressive days at 1A-7A Cullman Classic

» PAGE 4

Hanceville Irish Festival draws biggest turnout yet

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Beautiful weather? Check. Irish spirit? Check. Irish-inspired food? Check. Petting zoo? Check. Irish music? Check. Hundreds of festivalgoers looking for a good time? Check.

For the past nine years, the Hanceville Irish Festival has delivered a day filled with Irish culture, live entertainment and a wide variety of vendors. This year's event, held Saturday, March 14, proved to be the largest yet, featuring 67 vendors and drawing hundreds of visitors from across Cullman County and beyond.

Vendor offerings ranged from handmade goods and 3D-printed items to ceramic earrings, designer » PAGE 5



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Drake & Ivy's Delicious Delights was just one of the 67 vendors set up at the Hanceville Irish Festival on Saturday, March 14, 2026.

Late-season snow



CHASITY MCBRAYER

A close-up shot of Fairview High School in the snow



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Horses dusted with snow in Spring Hill



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Snow-covered fields in Trimble

» PAGE 8

3 Alabama-connected airmen among 6 killed in KC-135 crash in Iraq



U.S. AIR FORCE

Left to right are Maj. John "Alex" Klinner, Capt. Ariana G. Savino and Tech. Sgt. Ashley B. Pruitt.

» PAGE 2

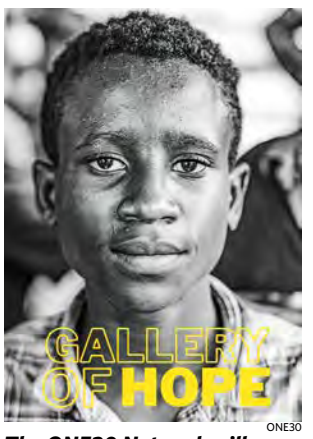
Christina Chambers Twilight 5K to honor Cullman native and journalist

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Dodge City discusses financials, park, community events

» PAGE 3

Gallery of Hope event to showcase African children's artwork March 19



ONE30

The ONE30 Network will host its Gallery of Hope event March 19 at Cotton Creek Warehouse in Cullman, featuring artwork created by children participating in programs supported by the organization in Africa.

» PAGE 2

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported March 16

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported March 16, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

March 12

- harassment; CR 544
- domestic violence; CR 1196
- trespassing; Day Gap Rd.
- domestic violence; CR 321
- burglary; CR 1352
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 616
- domestic violence; CR 644
- burglary; theft of property; Main St. SE
- trespassing; CR 1658

March 13

- domestic violence; Lee Rd.
- theft of property; CR 571
- criminal mischief; Hwy. 278W
- passing forged instrument; Main St. NW
- theft of property; CR 1121
- possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; CR 1160
- violation of elder abuse protection order; CR 1043
- domestic violence; CR 771

March 14

- harassment; CR 1196
- theft of property; CR 18
- harassment; CR 598
- burglary; CR 1043
- harassment; CR 544
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69
- harassment; CR 1242

March 15

- domestic violence; CR 1372
- criminal mischief; CR 1141
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 1087
- harassment; Hickory St. NE
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 781
- domestic violence; CR 1755
- possession of controlled substance with intent to distribute; CR 555
- unauthorized use of motor vehicle; CR 787
- violation of protection order; CR 555

ARRESTS

March 12-15

Baker, Brenda L.; 44
- assault-harassment

Chilel Niz, Julio R.; 30
- driving under the influence of alcohol and/or 0.08 percent or more by weight of alcohol in blood

Davis, David A.; 48
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Doss, Bethany N.; 39
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs

Edenfield, Michael A.; 25
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Hargett, William J.; 77
- assault-domestic-menacing-intimidation only

Hendrix, Katherine E.; 43
- FTA – assault-domestic violence-3rd degree – criminal mischief-3rd degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – obstruction-governmental operations
- FTA – tampering with physical evidence
- DUI (controlled substances)

Hinman, James T.; 45
- unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Johnson, Bama N.; 54
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

King, Laura J.; 23
- unauthorized use of other vehicle-no force

Lee, Haley R.; 42
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – promote prison contraband (drugs)
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

McClelland, Brandon C.; 25
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- no plainly visible tag

McCown, Katelynn M.; 32
- passing forged instrument

Mealer, James W.; 34
- unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle
- theft-miscellaneous
- theft-miscellaneous, $1500-2500

Parker, Robert D.; 49
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument

Patterson, Dustin D.; 41
- FTA – attempting to elude
- FTA – burglary-3rd degree

Penn, Crystal W.; 43
- family offense-causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Pullium, James L.; 40
- certain person forbidden possession of a pistol
- possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)

Richter, Morgan B.; 23
- public intoxication

Smith, Steven D.; 59
- FTA – negotiating worthless instrument
- FTA – driving while license suspended

Swann, Brandon L.; 34
- FTA – contempt of court-failing to appear traffic

Thorne, Jr., Eugene R.; 66
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-child

Villa, Jr., Antonio; 46
- violation of an elder abuse protection order

Wiley, Emmanuel K.; 27
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)

Wilkerson, William R.; 22
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, less than $500
- FTA – criminal trespass

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

March 13

- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $246; Olive St. SW
- theft of lost property-2nd degree; person; purse & contents; Cullman Shopping Center

March 14

- harassment; person; Hwy. 157
- menacing; person; 2nd Ave. SW

March 15

- theft of property-1st degree; person; '10 Buick LeSabre; $3,500; Hwy. 157

ARRESTS

March 13-15

Contreras, Eva E.; 37
- theft of property-4th degree

Griffin, Zackery G.; 19
- reckless endangerment (2 counts)

Patterson, Dustin D.; 41
- reckless endangerment
- attempt to elude

Fitzgerald, Shanna M.; 38
- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree

Lee, Haley R.; 42
- FTA – criminal mischief-3rd degree

Cole, Brandon r.; 40
- DUI
- driving while revoked
- reckless driving
- attempt to elude
- improper lane usage
- fail to signal

Johnson, Ladonna W.; 46
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Stephens, Kristy L.; 31
- DUI

Graves, Kaiden P.; 20
- DUI

Caswell, Chance D.; 24
- receiving stolen property-1st degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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Crash (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - Three of the six U.S. airmen killed in the crash of a KC-135 refueling aircraft in western Iraq had ties to Alabama through the Birmingham-based 117th Air Refueling Wing.

According to a statement released by U.S. Central Command, all six crew members aboard the aircraft were confirmed deceased after the KC-135 Stratotanker went down March 12 while flying over friendly airspace in western Iraq.

The aircraft was operating in support of U.S. military operations in the region during what officials described as Operation Epic Fury.

Officials said the circumstances surrounding the crash remain under investigation.

However, military officials stated the loss of the aircraft was not the result of hostile fire or friendly fire.

Three of the service members assigned to the mission had ties to Alabama through the Birmingham-based 117th Air Refueling Wing, part of the Alabama Air National Guard.

In a statement posted to social media, Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey confirmed the Alabama connection and offered condolences to the families of the airmen.

"Their loss is a tragedy for our nation," Ivey said. "Three of the service members who lost their lives were stationed at the 117th in Birmingham. They were not only outstanding Airmen. They were our neighbors, our fellow Alabamians. May their service and that of their families never be forgotten."

Officials identified one of the airmen as Maj. John "Alex" Klinner, 33, of Auburn. Klinner served as a pilot aboard the KC-135 and had recently deployed to the Middle East. He is survived by his wife and three children.

Capt. Ariana G. Savino, 31, of Covington, Washington, and Tech. Sgt. Ashley B. Pruitt, 34, of Bardstown, Kentucky, also served aboard the aircraft and were assigned to the 99th Air Refueling Squadron, which operates alongside the Alabama Air National Guard unit at the Birmingham Air National Guard base.

The identities of the service members were released after military officials completed next-of-kin notifications.

According to The Military Times:

"Klinner was the chief of Squadron Standardizations and Evaluations at the 99th Air Refueling Squadron, the Air Force announced. He entered the Air Force in 2017 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at Auburn University and would go on to deploy in 2019, 2020, 2022 and 2026.

"Klinner's awards include the Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, Aerial Achievement Medal, and Air and Space Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster.

"Savino was the chief of Current Operations Pilot at the 99th Air Refueling Squadron. She earned her active duty commission in 2017 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at Central Washington University and deployed in 2020 and 2026.

"Savino's awards include the Air Medal and the Air and Space Commendation Medal.

"Pruitt was an assistant flight chief of Operations and KC-135 instructor boom operator at the 99th Air Refueling Squadron, the service announced. She joined the Air Force in May 2017 and completed Career Enlisted Aviator training the following February.

"Pruitt deployed in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2026, according to her service record. Her awards include the Air Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, the Air and Space Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, and the Air and Space Achievement Medal."

The KC-135 Stratotanker is an aerial refueling aircraft used by the U.S. Air Force to extend the range and endurance of military aircraft by providing fuel while in flight.

Officials said the aircraft was operating in western Iraq when it went down March 12.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation.

Leadership with the 117th Air Refueling Wing said the unit is grieving the loss of the airmen and supporting their families and fellow service members.

Additional details about the crash and the airmen are expected to be released as the investigation continues.

Gallery of Hope (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. - An upcoming gallery event in Cullman will showcase artwork created by children in Africa while raising support for programs that provide education and resources to communities overseas.

The Gallery of Hope, hosted by the ONE30 Network, is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. at Cotton Creek Warehouse, located at 417 Third Ave. SW in Cullman.

The event will feature artwork created by children involved in programs supported by ONE30, a nonprofit organization that works with communities in Uganda through initiatives focused on education, support services and opportunities for youth.

Organizers stated the gallery-style event will give attendees the opportunity to view and purchase artwork created by children participating in the organization's programs.

Proceeds from the event help support education and community initiatives connected to those efforts.

The evening is designed to highlight both the creativity of the children and the broader mission of the organization while giving members of the Cullman community an opportunity to learn more about the work being done through the nonprofit.

Community members attending the event will be able to view the artwork, learn more about the programs supported by ONE30 and participate in the effort to help expand opportunities for children served through the organization.

Additional information about the event and the organization's programs can be found at https://one30.org/gallery-of-hope.



Dodge City (from Front)

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

DODGE CITY, Ala. - The Dodge City Town Council addressed financial updates, park improvements and upcoming community events during its recent meeting on Thursday, March 12, before hearing remarks from a candidate for Cullman County sheriff.

Council members approved meeting minutes and the town's financial reports. The February report showed the general account ending the month with a balance of approximately $436,734.30 after $62,997.94 in income and $23,717.94 in expenses. Other accounts included the pass-through road account at $29,286.97 and the HB2 gas and diesel account at $84,162.94. The town's certificates of deposit totaled just over $1 million.

The council reported that work was completed on a pipe installation to improve the road and hill leading into the town park.

The council agreed to hold this year's Dodge City Day at the park, setting a tentative date for June 6.

Members also reviewed information about a potential Alabama Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) grant and discussed a request to proclaim April Child Abuse Prevention Month as part of the "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign.

Following adjournment, Tim Creel addressed the council and attendees as part of his campaign for Cullman County sheriff ahead of the May 19 Primary Election.

Creel has 38 years of law enforcement experience, including 18 years with the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, and currently works as a criminal investigator with the Guntersville Police Department.

He briefly outlined the priorities he would pursue if elected, including forming an organized crime unit, focusing on crimes against children and reviewing cold-case and missing-persons investigations.

Creel encouraged voters to research candidates before the election and choose the one they believe is best.

The Dodge City Council will meet next on Thursday, April 9, at 6 p.m. at Dodge City Town Hall.

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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
• Wednesday, March 18 – 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area 5:15-5:30. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, March 20 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Saturday, March 21 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
• Sunday, March 22 – 8:15 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville
• February is Love Your Library Month, and we are having a BOOK SALE the entire month. The proceeds assist our children's program. The library is open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (closed from noon-1 p.m.) and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us on Facebook for weekly details or please feel free to call us at 256-352-0685. Follow Facebook/Hanceville Public Library for event details.
• Tuesday, March 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!

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

Hanceville Civitan Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. Egg Hunt begins promptly at noon. Bring the whole family out for an afternoon packed with games, activities and plenty of Easter fun for all ages. There will be something for everyone to enjoy! Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend this exciting community event — we can't wait to see you there! If you attended Night to Shine, we would absolutely love to see you at this special event as well! Come join us for another wonderful day of fun, fellowship and community. We can't wait to see your smiling faces again!

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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TRACK & FIELD

West Point, Fairview among others with impressive days at 1A-7A Cullman Classic

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Several local teams took part in the Cullman Classic on Saturday, and multiple squads, along with more than a handful of individuals, put together impressive results on Saturday. All area athletes who placed in the top five are listed below, along with the competition:

Girls 4x800m
- 3. Cullman – 11:10.22

Boys 4x800m
- 3. Cullman – 8:53.55
- 5. Vinemont – 9:11.98

Girls 1600m
- 4. Reese Swidecki – 5:20.94 (Cold Springs)
- 5. Madeline Stidham – 5:21.56 (Cullman)

Boys 1600m
- 5. Brady Johnson – 4:27.79 (Vinemont)

Boys 110mH
- 3. Asa Sutter – 15.31 (West Point)

Boys 400m
- 4. Ray McKenney – 52.44 (West Point)
- 5. Reid Huelsmann – 52.58 (Cullman)

Boys 100m Ambulatory
- 1. Daniel Figueroa – 14.34 (Holly Pond)

Boys 800m
- 2. Drake Nichols – 2:03.39 (Good Hope)
- 3. Henry Crocker – 2:04.51 (Cullman)

Girls 300mH
- 5. Cadence Watson – 51.53 (Good Hope)

Boys 300mH
- 2. Rush Lamar – 42.44 (West Point)
- 5. Yojan Patino – 43.52 (Vinemont)

Boys 200m Ambulatory
- 1. Daniel Figueroa – 29.31 (Holly Pond)

Boys 200m
- 4. Rush Lamar – 23.38 (West Point)

Girls 3200m
- 3. Reese Swidecki – 11:40.41 (Cold Springs)
- 4. Madeline Stidham – 11:46.64 (Cullman)

Boys 3200m
- 1. Brady Johnson – 9:50.79 (Vinemont)

Boys 4x400m
- 4. Good Hope – 3:38.80

Boys Shot Put
- 3. Isaiah Moore – 46-07.00 (14.19m) (Cullman)

Boys Discus
- 2. Isaiah Moore – 146-00 (44.50m) (Cullman)
- 3. Logan Rice – 144-01 (43.91m) (Fairview)

Boys Discus Ambulatory
- 1. Daniel Figueroa – 69-10 (21.28m) (Holly Pond)

Girls Pole Vault
- 2. Jana Blocher – 10-00.00 (3.04m) (Cullman)

Girls Long Jump
- 5. Kailyn Redding – 14-11.50 (4.55m) (Fairview)

Boys Long Jump
- 1. Nic Fallin – 21-01.75 (6.44m) (Fairview)
- 4. Jackson Floyd – 20-04.50 (6.21m) (Cullman)
- 5. Asa Sutter – 19-09.00 (6.01m) (West Point)



WEST POINT XC/T&F

West Point's Asa Sutter (left) and Rush Lamar (right)

Boys High Jump
- T3. Nic Fallin – 5-10.00 (1.77m) (Fairview)
- 5. Caden Moody – 5-10.00 (1.77m) (Holly Pond)

Girls High Jump
- 2. Kailyn Redding – 5-02.00 (1.57m) (Fairview)
- 3. Ella Dickerson – 5.02.00 (1.57m) (Cold Springs)
- T4. Katelee Blalock – 5-00.00 (1.52m) (Cullman Christian)

Boys Triple Jump
- 1. Asa Sutter – 43-11.00 (13.38m) (West Point)

Boys Javelin Throw Ambulatory
- 1. Daniel Figueroa – 70-00 (21.33m) (Holly Pond)

Boys Javelin Throw
- 1. Andrew Latham – 167-11 (51.18m) (Fairview)
- 5. Isaiah Moore – 143-03 (43.66m) (Cullman)

Girls Javelin Throw
- 2. Kynzlee Garmon – 113-05 (34.56m) (Good Hope)

PREP BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Scores and stats for March 14, 2026

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

BASEBALL

- Cold Springs 12, Brewer 3 – Batting: C. Perdue 1-3 (3B), 3 RBI – B. Chasteen 3-4 (2B), 2 RBI Pitching: C. Johnson 4.0 IP, 2 ER, 3 K

- Scottsboro 6, Fairview 3 – Batting: C. Cullen 1-4 (HR), RBI – C. Scott 2-3 Pitching: H. Barron 6.0 IP, 6 ER, 4 K

- Southeastern 12, Good Hope 2 – Batting: C. Rutherford 1-3 (2B), RBI Pitching: C. Rutherford 2.2 IP, 4 ER, 6 K

- Holly Pond 15, Brindlee Mtn. 5 – Batting: J. Miller 2-4 (2B), RBI Pitching: K. Johnson 1.1 IP, 0 ER, K, W

- East Lawrence 17, Meek 1 – Batting: C. Price 1-2 (2B), RBI Pitching: E. Miles 2.0 IP, 6 ER, 2 K

- Vinemont 15, Meek 5 – Batting: T. Speer (Vine.) 1-3 (HR), 2 RBI – J. Rhodes (Vine.) 2-6 (2B x2), 4 RBI Pitching: T. Mauter 5.0 IP, 2 ER, 12 K, W

- East Lawrence 15, Vinemont 4 – Batting: C. Drummond 2-2, RBI Pitching: B. Wallace 2.0 IP, 7 ER, 2 K

- Brewer 5, West Point 4 – Batting: C. Ashley 2-3 (2B x2), 2 RBI – T. Thompson 2-4 (2B x2), 2 RBI Pitching: S. Echols 2.2 IP, 0 ER, 3 K

SOFTBALL

- Danville 8, Cold Springs 2 – Batting: K. Calvert 1-3 – S. Ingram 1-2 Pitching: A. Kilgo 5.0 IP, 0 ER, 2 K

- Fairview 3, Cold Springs 2 – Batting: A. Phillips (Fair.) 1-3 (HR), 2 RBI Pitching: J. Barnett 6.0 IP, 0 ER, 4 K, W

- Fairview 11, Danville 9 – Batting: C. Newton 3-4 (2B), 2 RBI Pitching: C. Newton 5.0 IP, 0 ER, K, W

- Hanceville 6, Vinemont 5 – Batting: K. Farr (Hance.) 2-3, 2 RBI – K. Metzger (Vine.) 1-3 (2B) Pitching: K. Farr 4.0 IP, 0 ER, 4 K

- Hanceville 6, Randolph Co. 1 – Batting: K. Farr 2-3 (2B), 3 RBI – K. Butler 2-3 (2B), 2 RBI Pitching: K. Butler 5.0 IP, 1 ER, 7 K, W

- Lamar Co. 11, Meek 10 – Batting: C. Daugherty 3-4 (HR), 5 RBI Pitching: S. Farley 7.2 IP, 5 ER, 3 K

- Lindsay Lane 4, Vinemont 3 – Batting: B. Basinger 2-3 Pitching: T. Vines 6.0 IP, 4 ER, 4 K

- Hayden 6, West Point 3 – Batting: A. Pruett 1-2, RBI Pitching: B. McSwain 4.0 IP, 6 ER, 2 K

- West Point 9, Dora 8 – Batting: B. Phillips 1-2 (Game-winning 2B), RBI Pitching: B. McSwain 1.0 IP, 2 ER, W

- Curry 6, West Point 5 – Batting: A. Pruett 2-3 (HR), 3 RBI Pitching: K. Jones 5.1 IP, 2 ER

COLUMN

Even after his disastrous tenure, Trent Dilfer continues to insult UAB with latest 'leftovers' quote

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — After marching the streets of Birmingham to get their program back then watching the most successful run in school history under Bill Clark, securing a move up to the American Conference, UAB fans were treated to one of the most nonsensical hirings in sports history.

In December of 2022, after moving on from interim HC Bryant Vincent (Clark's offensive coordinator and pick for the top job), the school announced the hiring of 13-year NFL quarterback, former ESPN analyst and high school state championship head coach at 2A Lipscomb Academy in Tennessee, Trent Dilfer.

From the jump, the hiring reeked. Not just of incompetence by the institution for hiring someone with no experience to take over a program in its' heyday, but also of seemingly trying to build a brand off the name of a famous coach, similar to Deion Sanders at Colorado.

The former Blazer brand, that of being a poster child for resilience- a true media darling, was soon reduced to less than a national laughingstock, often instead drawing pity.

The 21 losses over 30 games, failure to win a single matchup on the road and hiring almost exclusively coaches he brought from the high school ranks were enough to elicit criticism. Where Dilfer particularly excelled in running the program's perception into the ground, however, was in front of a microphone.

Braindead quotes like his infamous "This isn't freaking Alabama" after a 41-18 home loss to Navy in a nearly empty Protective Stadium drew the ire of the Blazer faithful.

Despite having been canned by the school five months ago in favor of the one great hire he did make in his offensive play-caller Alex Mortensen, the disrespect continues to roll in.

On the OutKick Hot Mic podcast last week, Dilfer made an appearance. Not only did he clearly not think much of the institution, but he made it clear he didn't think much of his players, either.

"When you go into the portal for leftovers, that's what you get." Dilfer continued, "they're good kids, they're looking for an opportunity, but there's a reason why it didn't work at their last school if they're coming to UAB. There's usually a competitive piece to it, it's not a traits thing. We'd go play Tulane and Jon [Sumrall] would say 'Hey, you've got a good looking team' and I'm like 'Yeah, but wait till this thing gets hard and see how they respond, and that's where the personal fouls, and lack of discipline and missed assignments and dropped balls and bad reads, because from a competitive standpoint there's a reason they didn't make it at Maryland or Georgia Tech or wherever we're getting them from. Because when it gets hard, a really good player rises. Our players shrunk."

There's plenty to unpack there. First, that word, "leftovers." Yes, the Blazers did not have a good transfer class in 2025, it ranked 87th nationally, with the program struggling to reel in much D1 experience. However, what happened when those "leftovers" were left in the hands of Mortensen to face 22nd-ranked, 6-0 rival Memphis just the week after Dilfer was fired? They produced one of the most iconic wins in school history, toppling the Tigers 31-24.

Second, I believe, and most would agree, that it is a direct indictment on the quality of leadership that the players "shrunk" when faced with adversity. It is the job of a coach to not only prepare the players physically, but to also know the mental makeup of a player before you sign them.

Whether this was disregarded in favor of talent, or just not Dilfer's strong suit, it was an issue that hurt the Blazers even after his departure. There was the viral instance of a player stomping on a kickers' foot early in 2025, but before the last home game of the season, things came to a head with transfer defensive lineman Daniel Mincey stabbing two teammates at the facility after an altercation during team breakfast.

The jab on the OutKick podcast wasn't his first since he left Birmingham. On another appearance on the show earlier this year, Dilfer had this to say after announcing his return to Lipscomb to take over the program again, "You know the one thing that's great about Lipscomb is that they care about winning as much as I do. They are invested. I cannot say that about the last place I was at."

UAB, still a fairly young school and even younger athletic department, doesn't have old money to fund their teams in this pay-to-win era. Regardless, investment goes deeper than money.



UAB ATHLETICS

Former UAB head coach Trent Dilfer

Dilfer talked his way into the UAB job. He sold himself to an athletic director to make $1.3 million dollars a year at an AAC program. Yet, after the ink dried on that contract and the school went 4-8 in 2023, his ability to sell himself and his vision for the program seemed to disappear.

Players left at first chance, speculation of culture issues within the building arose and the world watched as the once-revered program collapsed. While Dilfer continues beating a dead horse and dodging accountability on podcasts, the Blazers have legitimate momentum.

In the final game of 2025, the Blazers won their first away game in nearly three calendar years under Mortensen, who was then promoted to full-time head coach. With less than a month of preparation, the new head coach then went out and signed a portal class ranked higher than any in the Dilfer era.

So, after again experiencing a program-altering setback, the sun seems to be shining on UAB football once more. There's much to prove, and Mortensen isn't exactly a flashy press conference winner in terms of personality, but the late season rally and portal class proved he isn't here to talk. He's here to win.

Twilight 5K (from Front)

Noah Galilee
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CULLMAN, Ala. — A twilight run in Cullman this summer will honor the life and legacy of a former sports journalist and Cullman native while supporting the child she left behind.

The Christina Chambers Twilight 5K is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 7, at 8 p.m. at Cotton Creek in Cullman. Organizers say the evening event will bring together runners, walkers and members of the community to celebrate Chambers' love of running and the impact she had on those around her.

Chambers, a 2006 graduate of Cullman High School and former WBRC sports reporter, died in December 2025 in Hoover. She was 38.

The event is designed as both a tribute and a celebration, highlighting Chambers' passion for distance running and the determination that defined her life.

"The Christina Chambers Twilight 5K honors the life and legacy of Christina Chambers, a Cullman native and avid runner whose determination and vibrant spirit inspired those around her," Cotton Creek said in announcing the event.

"As the sun sets and lights come on, this event brings our community together to celebrate Christina's love of running and the strength she embodied."

Organizers said the race will feature a fast and festive course with music and community support throughout the evening.

"Runners and walkers of all levels will take on a fast, fun course filled with energy, music and community spirit," the announcement said.

All net proceeds from the race will benefit Chambers' young son, Constantine, as well as local charitable causes chosen in her honor.

"All net proceeds will benefit her son, Constantine, and local charities, helping carry forward the legacy of love she left behind."

Chambers' parents, who operate Chambers Farm and Garden Supply in Cullman, are partnering with Cotton Creek to help bring the event to life.

"We have partnered with Cotton Creek as a sponsor to host the Christina Chambers Twilight 5K at Cotton Creek in Cullman," the family said. "Our daughter Christina loved to run and we hope the community will come together to run or walk for her in this 5K."

Chambers was widely known in Alabama sports media, having worked as a television sports reporter and later as a broadcast educator and mentor to young journalists. Friends and colleagues have remembered her as energetic, driven and deeply devoted to her family and community. The twilight start time is intended to create a unique atmosphere as participants run under evening lights in a show of unity and remembrance.

"Lace up, light up and let's run into the night together, for Christina."

Registration for the event is now open. Participants can sign up and learn more about the race at www.christinachambers5k.com.

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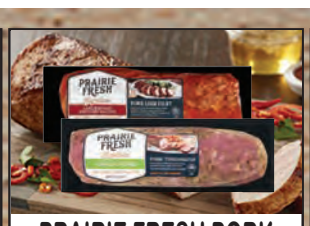
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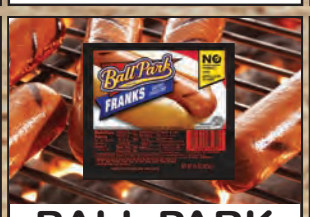
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WSCC

Winners: Advanced Category - From right to left: 1st: Gio Rodriguez, JB Pennington High School; 2nd: Juan Gutierrez-Leon, Career Academy of Decatur; 3rd: Joey Stano, Montevallo High School; 4th: Alan Rocha, Dekalb County Technical Center; 5th: Kyler Pope, Dekalb County Technical Center



WSCC

Winners: First-year Category - From right to left: 1st: Brody Freeman, Dekalb County Technical Center; 2nd: Macon Ashley, Dekalb County Technical Center; 3rd: Aron Quintana, Dekalb County Technical Center; 4th: Whitaker Kerns, HCT ; 5th: Alisha Quick, Calhoun Community College Dual Enrollment student



WSCC

Winners: Ag Category - (from right to left): 1st: Skylar Jorden, Bevill State Community College Dual Enrollment student; 2nd: Hunter Daily, Arab High School; 3rd: Jaxson Blackwood, Danville High School; 4th: Carlos Zamora, Dora High School; 5th: Mickel Taylor, Dora High School

Wallace State hosts High School Welding Competition

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. - On Friday, March 13, over 130 high school students from 35 schools across the state gathered for a welding competition at Wallace State Community College to share their skills and connect with possible future career opportunities.

The competition began in 2023 by Welding Department Chair Randy Hammond as a way to introduce high school students to the Wallace State campus and welding program, as well as give them an opportunity to test their skills and compete for prizes.

Judges from the Local 91 UA Pipe Welding Union of Birmingham evaluated the students' work using standards set by the American Welding Society. Welding Instructor and Certified Welding Inspector Melanie Patterson said judges looked for proper welding techniques, including travel and work angles, travel speed and the ability to correctly set up welding machines. Competitors were also expected to follow diagrams outlining each assigned weld task.

This year's event also offered new opportunities for students. The Wallace State Future Foundation awarded scholarships for the first time to the top three finishers in the Advanced Category, with prizes of $2,000 for first place, $1,250 for second and $1,000 for third.

"We are very appreciative to the Future Foundation for providing $4,250 in scholarship money to the top three winners," Hammond said. "We have a great partnership with the Future Foundation, and we thank them for supporting the competition and for supporting future Wallace State welding students."

During the competition, 10 companies set up booths to share information with students and discuss career opportunities in the welding industry.

Patterson said events like the competition help address a growing shortage of skilled welders by connecting students with employers and encouraging them to pursue careers in the trades.

"There is indeed a tremendous shortage of welders," Patterson said. "Employers who hire welders and who have been welding for a long time are great at encouraging new welders and explaining how they can have a long and fulfilling career."

For students interested in entering the trade, Patterson said the welding program at Wallace State can be completed in four semesters and offers a strong return on investment.

"A student can earn an associate degree in welding for about $13,000. In the first year, they could easily make around $50,000, with pay increasing from there," she said.

Patterson said students who work hard, show up on time and maintain a positive attitude can build a successful and rewarding career in the welding industry.

Wallace State introduces Speech-Language Pathologist Assistant Program

Chasady Woods
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HANCEVILLE, Ala. – Wallace State Community College has introduced a Speech-Language Pathologist Assistant Program. WSCC Program Director, Diagnostic Imaging / Assistant Dean of Health Science Dr. Jim Malone spoke briefly at an information session about the program on March 13.

Malone said the need for the program was brought to his attention by many local superintendents and all expressed the urgent need for the program in Cullman and surrounding counties.

He said Wallace State is the only community college in Alabama to offer the program at this time.

Said Program Director Chante Nelson, "There is a local demand for Speech-Language Pathology in schools because those who currently work in the field are aging out."

Speech-Language Pathology helps those who struggle with stuttering, social communication, feeding or swallowing and more. It is a healthcare profession focused on analyzing and essentially treating communication and swallowing disorders in people of all ages.

Augmentative and alternative communication is an aspect of this profession. Speech-Language Pathologists will assess and configure ways to best help someone with AAC have a "voice."

SLPs don't hand over an iPad with apps like Grid or LAMP Words for Life.

It requires observation and trial and error to ensure long-term solutions and use for the individual.

Though SLPs can assist children with speech sound production, they can also assist individuals who have suffered cognitive damage from strokes.

They provide rehabilitation management to the individuals in cases where there is difficulty with speech, loss of speech and even swallowing.

Wallace State will be selecting 12 students for the summer program. There is a minimum requirement of a 2.5 GPA and a 20 or higher on the ACT. Secretary of Health Sciences, Jennifer Craig advised that an ACT score of 19 is accepted under the condition that the student will retake it to get a 20 or higher. If the student does not meet the required score they will be taken out of the class.

If you're planning to apply for the class, keep in mind you must wait 60 days before retaking your ACT.

Individuals who currently have a degree with an ACT score under 20 will still be expected to retake the ACT to meet the requirement.

Craig advised it is not fair to make exceptions for one student, but not the other.

The current application period ends April 1 at 11:59 p.m. for spring/summer admissions. All materials for the application will have to be submitted before the deadline. Late applications will be considered on a "space available" basis.

"Community service in the field isn't required since it's a new program, but it could be within your best interest to shadow someone to be safe," Craig told the audience.

Representatives from TheraPlay Pediatric Sensory Gym advised they love having individuals job shadow, especially ones who are interested in Speech-Language Pathology.

"Our area is very underserved, so we are thrilled about the SLPA program at Wallace.

"We know this new program will meet a big need in our communities and schools," said TheraPlay Owner Janelle Britt, M.S.,C-CC-SLP.

"In addition to job shadowing, we also offer observation hours for students applying to the SLPA or OTA programs at Wallace."

If you are interested in job shadowing or observation times, email TheraPlay Clinical Manager Madison Lee at madisonlee@theraplayal.com.

For more information about the Speech-Language Pathologist Assistant Program at Wallace State, email jennifer.craig@wallacestate.edu or chante.nelson@wallacestate.edu, or visit www.wallacestate.edu/programs/health-division/speech-pathologist-assistant/index.html.



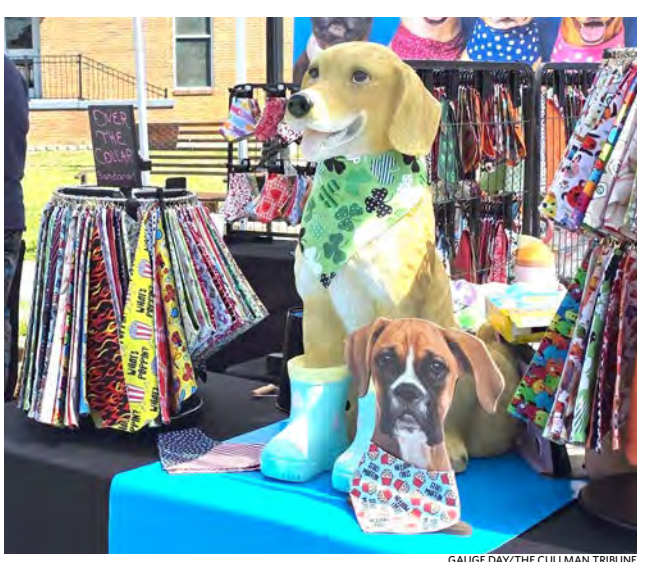
GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Festival (from Front)

hats, custom-made pens and trinkets, as well as homemade baked treats, including some to-die-for peanut butter cookies. Food vendors were equally busy, serving everything from street corn and fried chicken favorites, with most vendors including dishes with an Irish-inspired twist.

Families also had plenty to enjoy throughout the day. Children flocked to the yearly staple's inflatable bounce houses while a petting zoo drew in plenty of attention with camels, llamas, a ferret, a tortoise and several other animals visitors could feed and interact with.

Festival organizer and Hanceville Mayor Nolan Bradford later shared a message of appreciation on Facebook, thanking the vendors, sponsors and volunteers who helped make the event possible.



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

"A special thank you to all the vendors, sponsors, performers, city employees and volunteers who participated in this year's event," Bradford said. "We tried something different this year by going all the way around the block downtown and had our best turnout ever. See everyone next year!"

For more information about the Hanceville Irish Festival and updates on the 2027 event, follow the festival's official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hancevilleirishfest.



LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
FLOYD DYER, * CASE NO PC 2025-446
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL, AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL and OBJECTION TO THE ESTATE BY PAMELA DYER PIERCE

TO: SCOTT DYER AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Petition for Probate of Will, and *Amended Petition for Probate of Will* filed Pamela Dyer Pierce, Petitioner, through Attorney Thomas E. Drake, II, and *Objection to the Estate Filed by Pamela Dyer Pierce*, filed by Pamela E. Nail, Attorney for the Widow, Mary Dyer, has been scheduled for the **5th day of May, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.**, before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Done this the 12th day of March, 2026.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks is said newspaper and send Proof of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Thomas E. Drake, II
Attorney for the Petitioner
419 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Case# PC2026-045
PB MIN Book 241 Page 516
Recorded in Above Book and Page
03/12/2026 2:45PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
WJC

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
LOWELL EUGENE HALL, CASE NO.: PC 2026-045
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to PATRICK HALL as Personal Representative of the Estate of LOWELL EUGENE HALL, deceased, on the 10th 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.

Patrick Hall
Personal Representative

R. Leland Lesley
The Lesley Law Firm
Attorney for Estate
2908 Crescent Avenue
Birmingham, Alabama 35209

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
NEDRA JOYCE BLACKWOOD SMITH, * **CASE NO.: PC2026-057**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary having been granted to Kenneth W. Smith, Jr. as Personal Representative of the Estate of Nedra Joyce Blackwood Smith 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 will be barred.

Kenneth W. Smith, Jr.
Personal Representative

Atty for Estate:
Thomas E. Drake, II
419 Second Avenue SW STE A
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone (256) 739-9445

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

RICHARD LEWIS LeCROY, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2026-100

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF RICHARD LEWIS LeCROY, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Donald Brandon LeCroy on the 10th day of March, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Donald Brandon LeCroy, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
DELBA M. BRIGHT, * **CASE NO.: PC2026-094**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary having been granted to Elaine Murphree Simpson as Personal Representative of the Estate of Delba M. Bright deceased, on the 6th 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 will be barred.

Elaine Murphree Simpson
Personal Representative

Atty for Estate:
Perry D. Knight
412 First Avenue SE Suite 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone (256) 734-4090

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

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

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

Case# PC2026-091
PB WIL Book 136 Page 747
Recorded in Above Book and Page
03/06/2026 2:58PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
KAR

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
GEORGE CARROL COLE) CASE NO.: PC 2026 - 091
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to Deborah Kay Cole Busby, as Administratrix of the Estate of George Carrol Cole, deceased, on the 6th day of March, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Deborah Kay Cole Busby
Deborah Kay Cole Busby

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

Attorney for Administratrix

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.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
JOSEPH WAYNE THOMPSON, * CASE NO.: PC2024-423
Deceased. *

AMENDED
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Billy J. Smith, as Personal Representative of the Estate of JOSEPH WAYNE THOMPSON, deceased, on the 4th 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.

Amended to correct the date

Billy J. Smith
Personal Representative

Seth B. Thompson
Attorney for the Petitioner
201 Second Avenue Southeast
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 4th day of March, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Case# PC2026-043
PB MIN Book 241 Page 192
Recorded in Above Book and
02/27/2026 2:07PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
KENNETH DELMER RODEN,
Deceased.

Case Number: PC2026-043

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Kenneth Delmer Roden, Deceased

Letters Of Administration, 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, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of the said Judge of Probate within six months from the above date, or said claim will be barred and payment prohibited.

Stacey Lynn Long
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055

TO PUBLISHER:

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF:
J.L.S.
D.O.B. 1/3/2013

Case# PC2025-316
PB MIN Book 241 Page 329
Recorded in Above Book and Page
03/09/2026 2:29PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
WJC

CASE NO: PC 2025-316

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF MINOR

TO: ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE CHILD BORN TO KARI SUMMER MAY, KNOWN AS J.L.S.

The Petition to Change Name of Minor was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Kari Summer May, Biological Mother. If you should contest, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with said petitioner, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 5th DAY OF March, 2026.

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

Pro Se

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARGARET E. MCDUGALD, * CASE NO PC 2023-390
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

TO: CARMEN STACY BARBER AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Petition for Final Settlement filed Thomas D. Jones, Petitioner, through Attorney Dan J. Willingham, has been scheduled for the **7th day of May, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.**, before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Done this the 12th day of March, 2026.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

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

Dan J. Willingham
Attorney for the Estate
413 First Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
CLAUDIA ANN WILLCUTT,) CASE NO PC 2025-402
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: CECIL JACKSON WILLCUTT, JUDY AARON and all known and unknown heirs of the estate of CLAUDIA ANN WILLCUTT, deceased.

The Petition of Kathy Douglas to admit to probate the Last Will and Testament of Claudia Ann Willcutt, deceased, has been set for hearing on the **22nd day of April, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, Judge of Probate Office, Room 101.

All persons in interest residing or being without the state are hereby given notice to appear and contest said petition if they think proper.

Done this the 12th day of March, 2026.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune
Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper and send an affidavit of publication to the Judge of Probate.

Laura Alfano
Attorney for Petitioner
440 Twin Ridge Road
Warrior, AL 35180

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
CYNTHIA C. RYAN, * **CASE NO.: PC2026-037**
Deceased. *

Case# PC2026-037
PB WIL Book 136 Page 675
Recorded in Above Book and Page
03/05/2026 1:17PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
KAR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary having been granted to C. BLAKE WEST as Personal Representative of the Estate of CYNTHIA C. RYAN 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 will be barred.

C. Blake West
Personal Representative

Atty for Estate:
C. Blake West
412 4th Avenue SW STE 270
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Telephone (256) 798-0320

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
KATHRYN HAYS JUNKINS, * **CASE NO.: PC 2026-060**
Deceased. *

Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
KAR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to LAURA PARKER aka LAURA NICOLE CAMPBELL, as Personal Representative of the Estate of KATHRYN HAYS JUNKINS, deceased, on the 5th 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.

Laura Parker aka
Laura Nicole Campbell
Personal Representative

Michael J. Baggett
Attorney for Estate
206 Ninth Street SW, Suite 102
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

Obituary Announcements: March 14-16

Norma Olene Fincher, 89
Funeral service for Norma Olene Fincher, 89, of Hanceville will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 18th, 2026, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Baldwin Heights Baptist Cemetery, Dr. Howard Rodgers officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 12-2 p.m. prior to the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Fincher passed away Friday, March 13th, 2026, at CRMC. She was born July 20, 1936, to Thomas Walter & Florence Mae Roberts Drummond. Norma was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Welton C. "Bill" Fincher and her brothers and sisters. Survivors include her son, Clark (Sherry) Fincher; daughter, Carol (Keith) Watts; grandchildren, Casey (Morgan) Watts, Ben Fincher, Jessica (Laettner) Kilpatrick; great-grandchildren, Henry Watts, Harvey Watts; nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Tina Marie Jenkins, 60
Memorial services are incomplete at this time for Tina Marie Jenkins, 60, of Hanceville. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Tina passed away Friday, March 13, 2026, at CRMC. She was born August 17, 1965, to Wilson McCulley and Barbara Ann Bryant Hardeman. She was devoted to her family and friends. She loved to read and loved to read the Bible and religious books. Tina loved her dog, Fred. She was preceded in death by her father; her husband, Donald Jenkins; grandparents, Bessie & Donald Bryant; a son, Charles T. Cain. Survivors include her mother, Barbara Green; her mother-in-law, Sherry Reaves; brother, Bill Hardeman (Laura); brother-in-law, Shane Jenkins; nephews, Tony & Cody Hardeman; aunts, Betty Dover, Grace Potter; uncles, Donald, David and Paul Bryant; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Randy D. Ballard, 70
Randy D. Ballard, born on October 29, 1955, in Cullman, Alabama, passed away peacefully on March 13, 2026, in Cullman. He was beloved son, brother, uncle, and friend whose presence will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Randy was born to the late Fred and Estell Ballard, who preceded him in death. His family remembers him as a kind and generous soul, devoted to those he loved. Surviving Randy are his brother, Freddie Steve Ballard and his wife Deborah; his sister, Debbie Lynn Nation and her husband Randy; and his brother, Michael Anthony Ballard. He was also a loving uncle to his nieces and nephews Renee Lollar, Rebecca Ballard, and Andrew Nation along with Andrew's wife, Tasia. His great nieces Jolene Lollar, Rosalie Nation, and Delanie Nation brought him immense joy. Randy is also survived by his aunt, Faye Staney and her husband Clarence, as well as a wide circle of cousins and friends. The family will receive friends and loved ones for visitation at Hanceville Funeral Home on March 16, 2026, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. A funeral service to honor and celebrate Randy's life will be held at the funeral home on March 17, 2026, beginning at 2 p.m., with services concluding at 3 p.m. Bro. Trueman Davis will officiate services. Burial will follow at Hopewell Cemetery in Hanceville. Randy D. Ballard's life was one of warmth and steadfast devotion to family. Though he is no longer with us, his legacy of love and kindness will endure in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know him. His family and friends mourn his loss but also hold deep gratitude for the time shared with him. His memory will be treasured and his story forever remembered by those who loved him most.

Gena Rena Renner, 59
Gena Rena Renner, 59, of Vinemont passed away Friday, March 13, 2026 at Brookwood Hospital. She was born January 16, 1967 to Eddie Earl & Emma Lena Jennings Walker. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Gena was an angel on earth. In her early years she was baptized at St. Paul's. She loved working in the yard, working in her flowers, crocheting, and cooking. She was a Betty Crocker in the making. She was preceded in death by her father; her son, Lonnie Ian Waldon, and her brother, Scottie Walker. Those left to cherish her memory are her mother, Emma Walker; daughter, Sierra (Aaron) Roets; sisters, Sherri (Marty) Crawford, Melinda Walker Wright; grandchildren, James Briar Garrison, Tatum Rena Garrison, Barrett Ian Walker; nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Billy Joe Bartlett, 82
The following obituary has been lovingly written by Billy Joe's family. Billy Joe Bartlett, age 82 of Hartselle, formerly of Addison, passed away Saturday, March 14, 2026 at home surrounded by his loving family. Billy Joe is survived by his loving wife Cyndy of 39 years; children, Betsey Joe Holland (Irvin), Tommy Joe Bartlett, Darryl Joe Bartlett(Deanna), Chandra Adair (Alan) and Renee Loyd (Terry); grandchildren, Essie Joe Holland, Tyler Joe Bartlett(Haley) Todd Taylor (Jennifer), Keisha Harris (Derek), Ryan McAnear, Chelsey Rusk (Daniel) and his sister Linda Hayes (Jerry) and sister in law Orlene Bartlett. A host of great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings: Ray (Marbalene) Bartlett, Bobby Jack Bartlett, Limas Bartlett, and Ilene Bartlett. Pallbearers will be: Allen Ellis, Dewayne Hampton, Irvin Holland, Wes Holland, Joey Parker, and Shandy Porter. Honorary Pallbearers will be: Phillip Beasley, Jerry Hayes, Robert Kilgrow, Alan McNew, Jeff Payne, J.P. Theilmann and Bill Tittle. The family would like to thank CRMC Home Health and Hospice of the Valley. Services will be held at Addison Church of God on Wednesday, March 18th. Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. with burial in the adjoining cemetery following the service. Bishop Rodney Ridgeway, Bishop Samuel Parker and Bishop Danny Garrison will officiate. Memories and condolences can be shared at nicholsfuneralhomes.com.

Beverly Ann Cooper, 68
Beverly Ann Cooper, age 68, of Hanceville, passed away on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. She will be laid to rest at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Vinemont at a private family service. Beverly was born to Dewey and Audrey Wynn Jones on June 12, 1957. She is preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Jennifer Cooper; brother, Gerald Jones. She is survived by her loving husband of fifty-one years, Larry Cooper; two sons, Christopher Cooper (Tabitha), and their four children, and Nicholas Cooper (Samantha); grandchildren, Kayla Davis, and Blake Cooper (Haven); brother, Larry Jones (Betty Lou); sisters, Linda Jones, and Donna Jones. Family remembers Beverly as a wonderful, loving wife and mother. She will be greatly missed.

David Alfred Black, 85
Graveside Service for David Alfred Black, age 85 of Cullman, will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2026, at Emma Jarnagin Cemetery, Morristown, TN. Mr. Black's visitation will be from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mr. Black passed away on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at his residence. He was born, December 12, 1940, to David Andrew Black and Elaine Breeden Black. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Gilbert Black. Survivors include his son, Dee Black (Andrea); granddaughter, Jordyn Black; Nephews, Dwaan Black (Ellen), Andrew Black and cousin, Clay Whit.

Dorotha Dean Randolph, 85
Dorotha Dean Randolph, age 85, of Bremen, Alabama, passed away peacefully on March 13, 2026 surrounded by her family. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Dean was born to Edith and Tommy Jackson. She was a graduate of Hatton High School, and later attended Florence State Teacher's College. She dedicated many years of her life to serving others as a school teacher, touching the lives of many students with her kindness, patience, and dedication. As a dedicated mother and wife, Dean lived throughout Alabama as she followed her husband's coaching career. A woman clothed in strength and dignity, Dean was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who cherished her family deeply. She could often be found at a ballgame, school function, or special event for her family, taking great joy in supporting them and celebrating their accomplishments. Dean enjoyed traveling with her husband, creating many special memories together over the years. Alongside him, she faithfully served with Phil Waldrep Ministries for many years. She is remembered as a Christian woman whose life reflected love, grace, and faith. Her gentle spirit and caring heart will be remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Dean was preceded in death by her parents, Edith and Tommy Jackson; her sister, Sara Lee Hatton; and her beloved husband, Jimmy Randolph. She is survived by her brother, David Jackson (Vickie); three sons, Yancey Randolph (Julia), Kelly Randolph (Kim), and Britt Randolph (Shannon); her grandchildren, Micah, Jake (Amanda), Luke (Shaynah), Macie (Dakota), Mason (Allyson), and Morgan; and her great-grandchildren, Owen, Rynleigh, Hazel, Atlas, Marlee, Halson, Colin, and Leo. She also leaves behind many extended family members and friends who will cherish her memory. Dean's love for others and her strong faith will remain a lasting legacy. The family rests in the promise that she has received her reward and is now in the presence of her Lord and Savior. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, March 17th from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the celebration of life will be Wednesday, March 18th at 11:00am. Dean will lie in state from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. preceding the funeral. Both visitation and the celebration of life will be held at Bethany Baptist Church in Crane Hill, Alabama. A burial service will be held following the celebration of life at Masterson's Cemetery in Town Creek, Alabama. Pallbearers are Micah Randolph, Jake Randolph, Dakota Lamon, Luke Randolph, Mason Harris, and Owen Randolph.

Chris "Bird" Burk, 49
Memorial service for Chris "Bird" Burk, age 49, of Cullman, is Friday, March 20, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Memorial visitation will be held prior to the service at the funeral home from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Chris was born on August 22, 1976. He passed away at his residence, surrounded by his loving family on Saturday, March 14, 2026. He is preceded in death by his father, Pete O'Donnell; grandparents, Hazel and Harold Wilson. He is survived by his mother, Janet O'Donnell; daughter, Allison Burk; sons, Riley Burk and Blake Swearengin; sister, Jessie O'Donnell; brothers, Matt O'Donnell and Randall Burk; grandson, Wren Christopher McGraw; niece, Anna Taylor; special "grandkids", Anthony, Zachary and Blakely Friedrich.

Sarah Annice Middleton Hilburn, 97
Beloved wife, mother, and sister, Sarah Annice Middleton Hilburn, 97, passed away on February 24, 2026. She was born on October 24, 1928, to Rosa Pearl and Elijah M. Middleton in Miller County, Georgia. One of seven siblings of a strong farming family, she met and married the one she adored, Percy Buford Hilburn, Jr., in 1945. Together they raised six children while Percy pursued a military career with the US Army. She spoke often of how much she enjoyed their 32 years of military life and travels. A long-time resident of Florida, she moved to Cullman, Alabama in her later years. Mrs. Hilburn was preceded in death by her loving husband of 45 years, Colonel Percy B. Hilburn, Jr., and two sons, Mr. Charles Hilburn, San Antonio, Texas and Mr. Richard Hilburn, Tallahassee, Florida. She was also preceded in death by all of her siblings. She is survived by her sons Colonel (Retired) Ron (Pam) Hilburn of Helotes, Texas; Mr. Don (Susan) Hilburn of Byron, Georgia; Mr. Larry (Peggy) Hilburn of San Marcos, Texas; and daughter Mrs. Cherie Ann (Grady) Smith of Cullman, Alabama, and daughter-in-love Mary Frederick of Tallahassee, Florida. In one of her most favorite roles, Mrs. Hilburn was Meemaw to seven grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren living in Alabama, Georgia, and Texas. Aunt Sarah is also survived by a host of nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life will be held in her hometown of Colquitt, Georgia on Friday, March 20 at Colquitt Funeral Home. Visitation with family will be at 10 a.m. with her service following at 11 a.m. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home and Colquitt Funeral Home are coordinating arrangements. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, a favorite of Mrs. Hilburn. The family also extends heartfelt thanks to the Folsom Center 2nd Floor Staff and Enhabit Hospice for providing their kind and loving care during her journey Home.

John "Mike" Michael Isbell, 74
John Michael "Mike" Isbell passed away peacefully on March 12, 2026, surrounded by love. He had an infectious smile and a huge heart filled with love for all. He was a devoted husband, loving father, proud Big Daddy, and faithful friend. Above all, he cherished his family and the life he built with his beloved Linda. He was born on January 2, 1952, to his parents, Herman and Magdalene Isbell, in Anniston. After graduating from Cullman High School in 1969, he went on to study at Samford University, where he obtained his Doctorate of Pharmacy. After graduation, he founded and operated Cullman Discount Pharmacy for over 20 years. He was known for his kindness, patience, and genuine concern for every person who walked through the door. Mike took the time to know his customers by name and treated each one like family. He quietly made a difference in countless lives. After retiring from Cullman Discount Pharmacy, he later returned to his love of helping people and operated Econo-Med Pharmacy for over 20 years. In his free time, he enjoyed golfing, spending time with family and friends in Destin, Florida, and pursuing his many business adventures. He was a longtime member of St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, where he valued his church family and his walk with the Lord. Left to cherish his memory is his loving wife of 45 years, Linda; his daughters, Natalie "Daniel" Sizemore and Jennifer "Wes" Harrell; his brother, Jim "Elaine" Isbell; brother-in-law Robert "Loretta" Rigdon and his grandchildren, Ashleigh Drake, Will Drake, Faith Harrell, and Emily Harrell. He is also survived by Bella, his beloved fur baby, as well as his beloved nieces, nephews, and a godson and his family all who held a special place in his heart. In addition to his family, he leaves behind many cherished friends. He was reunited in heaven with his parents, as well as his mother- and father-in-law, Bob and Jane Rigdon. The family would like to express their love, sincere thanks, and deep gratitude to their extended family, Connie Self and Brooke Marks, for their kindness, love, support, and care during this difficult time. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who have had the privilege of knowing him. His kindness and gentle spirit will be remembered by all who knew and loved him. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church or Affinity Hospice of Cullman. Services will be announced in the coming days. To leave condolences for the Isbell family visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Robert Daniel "Danny" Tilley, 86
Graveside service for Robert Daniel 'Danny' Tilley, 86, of Logan will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, March 19th, 2026, at New Hope #1 Cemetery, Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Visitation will be Wednesday evening at the funeral home from 5-8 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Tilley passed away Sunday, March 15th, 2026, at his residence. He was born December 21, 1939, to Ophir O. & Elsie F. Laney Tilley. Danny was a poultry farmer. He loved working in the garden, collecting Indian artifacts, was an Alabama football fan, and loved watching his grandkids play sports. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making donations to his favorite charity, St. Jude's Hospital. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Okalene Tilley; brother, Jimmy Tilley; sister, Rebecca Tilley; grandson, Nathan Tilley; son-in-law, Jimmy Overton. Those left to cherish his memory are his son, Kalen (Mary) Tilley; daughter; Rhonda (Jeff) Bates; brother, Larry Tilley; grandchildren, Jodi (Jeremy) Hopper, Wesley (Malorie) Campbell, Blake (Danielle) Overton, Kaleb (Kat) Tilley, Travis (Caycee) Overton, Ethan (Haley) Tilley, Zack (Jamie Beasley) Tilley; great-grandchildren, Brody (Brylie Pearce) Hopper, Bryce (Maddie) Doyle, Brittlee Hopper, Blayklee, Houston, Hayes Overton, Oaklee, Arlie, Ellie Overton, Noah, Shepard Campbell, Kason, Kollins Tilley, Cooper, Addison, Olivia Tilley; sister-in-law, Clara Tilley; brother-in-law, Ronnie (Joyce) Reese' nieces, nephews, family and friends. Pallbearers will be Jeremy Hopper, Blake Overton, Travis Overton, Wesley Campbell, Kaleb, Ethan, Zack Tilley. Honorary pallbearers will be great-grandsons. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MARCH 17, 2026

ALEA K9 Toby getting donation of body armor

Staff Reports
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - K9 Toby will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from nonprofit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Toby's vest was sponsored by Maintou Cliff Dwellings of Manitou Springs, Colorado, and will be embroidered with the sentiment "This gift of protection provided by Vested Interest in K9s, Inc." Delivery is expected within 10 weeks.

K9 Toby is a 2-year-old Dutch Shepherd assigned to ALEA's SWAT Team. He is a dual-purpose dog, trained in apprehension and tracking.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., established in 2009, is a 501(c)(3) charity whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States.

This potentially lifesaving body armor for four-legged K9 officers is U.S. made, custom fitted and National Institute of Justice (NIJ) certified. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 6,348 vests valued at $6.9 million to K9s in all 50 states, made possible by both private and corporate donations.

The program is open to U.S. dogs at least 20 months old, actively employed and certified with law enforcement or related agencies.



ALEA

ALEA K9 Toby

K9s with expired vests are also eligible to participate. There are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. accepts tax-deductible contributions in any amount, while a single donation of $1,050 will sponsor one vest. Each vest has a value of $1,800.00, weighs an average of 4-5 lbs. and comes with a five-year warranty. For more information, or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events and accepts donations at www.vik9s.org, or you may mail your contribution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, Massachusetts 02718.



United Way Crawfish Boil returns March 27

Lauren Estes
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CULLMAN, Ala. - The United Way of Cullman County Young Professionals Crawfish Boil event is back for another year, hosted and sponsored by Hank's Sports Bar & Rumors Deli, on Friday, March 27, from noon-7 p.m.

UWCC Resource Development & Outreach Manager Director Taylor Johnson said Hank's has been an incredible partner for years, and hosting the crawfish boil is one of UWCC's favorite ways to give back.

"It's always a great atmosphere and honestly one of the tastiest ways to support the community," Johnson said. "Bring your friends, your coworkers and your appetite. This one always fills up fast, and it's always a great night for a great cause. We're really excited about the crawfish boil because it's one of our Young Professionals' biggest fundraisers of the year and one of the most fun events we host. It's a chance for families and friends to come together, enjoy great food and live music and support something that truly makes a difference in our community."

The price is $40 for all-you-can-eat crawfish. There's also a $25 to-go plate option. Live entertainment will be provided by Jake Mann & The Proof, and there will be a crawfish-themed photo booth.

"We're talking hot, seasoned crawfish, corn, potatoes, sausage, cold drinks, live music and a whole lot of community packed into one night," Johnson said. "Even better? Every ticket purchased helps support 18 local partner agencies right here in Cullman County, strengthening programs focused on literacy, food security, health and stability. Thank you to Tesha Brewer - State Farm, our official band sponsor, for helping make this night possible."

Get tickets at www.eventbrite.com/e/united-way-crawfish-boil-tickets-1982452520856.

Snow (from Front)



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Snow-covered fields in Trimble



LYNN CAMPBELL HARRIS

Snow blankets grass and a plant in West Point



CHASITY MCBRAYER

Fairview High School's large front lawn covered in snow



CHASITY MCBRAYER

Bella McBrayer, a new student and freshman at Fairview High School, enjoys her first snow day at her new school.

Spring break safety and respect: A guide for travelers

Anabelle Howze
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ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Spring breakers at Panama City Beach

As spring break begins, travelers should prioritize safety, situational awareness and respect for the communities they visit. With families and students heading to beaches and popular destinations, expect heavier traffic on the roads. When driving through larger cities like Huntsville, Birmingham or Montgomery, plan ahead and allow for extra travel time. Above all, stay alert for increased congestion and the potential for distracted drivers.

Personal safety and awareness

For high school and college students traveling without parents, it is best to stay with trusted friends. Avoid traveling alone to unfamiliar places, especially late at night or when attending parties, and always share your location with family members. Staying mindful of your surroundings is the best way to prevent unsafe situations. While a new acquaintance may appear friendly, avoid leaving a venue with people you do not know well.

Responsible behavior and local laws

Responsible behavior is essential, particularly in social environments where alcohol is present. If you choose to drink, do so responsibly; avoid becoming intoxicated to the point where you cannot make safe decisions, and never drive under the influence. Be aware that law enforcement presence is often increased in popular destinations to manage crowds and maintain safety. Travelers are expected to follow all local regulations, including specific rules on alcohol consumption. For instance, many beach communities strictly prohibit alcohol on the sand during spring break periods.

Respecting the community

Popular tourist areas experience a massive increase of visitors, which can lead to littering, noise and disorderly behavior that affects local residents and businesses. To ensure a positive experience for everyone:

- Pick up your trash and leave the environment as you found it
- Respect local businesses and their staff
- Interact politely with the residents who call these destinations home

Family and lodging security

Families traveling with children should take extra precautions in busy environments like festivals or crowded attractions. Because large crowds make it easy for a child to wander away, keep them within your sight at all times.

By staying alert on the road, making responsible decisions and respecting your hosts, you play an active role in making spring break enjoyable for all.