TOP CHOICE ROOFING
Free
Roof Inspections
Call 256-620-5482
TheTopChoiceRoofing.com

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 153 • 50¢ PER COPY | TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 45

WORKING FOR YOU!



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

'We lost a piece of our history'

Historic Stiefelmeyer Building burns

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES
Janice Jones, Sarah Alice Walker, Janice Eason Tucker
» PAGE 6

WEATHER
84 57
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
SUNNY

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3



BOBBY JO CREEL/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

–SPORTS–
Vinemont Elementary takes 2026 NASP State Championship behind top ten marks from Stracqualursi and Phillips
» PAGE 4



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The historic Stiefelmeyer Building in downtown Cullman burned Monday, April 13, 2026, resulting in a total loss. The fire did not spread to surrounding structures.

Noah Galilee/Lauren Estes
The Cullman Tribune

CULLMAN, Ala. — Firefighters worked for hours Monday to contain a blaze at the historic Stiefelmeyer Building in downtown Cullman, with crews remaining on scene as of print time, late evening. Cullman Fire Rescue Chief Darren Peeples said the building was "not salvageable."

Cullman Fire Rescue crews began responding to the fire around 4 a.m., with law enforcement securing the surrounding area and traffic rerouted through portions of downtown.

Fire response timeline

At 7 a.m., firefighters were actively working to contain the fire, with visible smoke impacting the surrounding area.

Allison Bright, CEO of the Cullman Power Board, said power was shut off as a safety measure, affecting multiple customers in the immediate area.

"We currently have 35 customers out on the block that includes Cullman Tribune and the Stiefelmeyer Building," Bright said. "There is a structure fire and we have it de-energized for safety. Power will be restored when possible."

Cullman Police Chief Joey Duncan confirmed officers were assisting with securing the scene.

"Cullman PD has responded to secure the area for an active structure fire being handled by Cullman Fire Rescue at the Stiefelmeyer Building," Duncan said. "Please avoid the area at this time." » PAGE 5



NOAH GALILEE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Three firefighters are seen on the roof of the Stiefelmeyer Building on Monday, April 13, 2026, attempting to extinguish the blaze.



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported April 13

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

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

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

April 9

- harassing communications; CR 1710
- theft of property; CR 902
- theft of property; Hwy. 278W
- theft of property; CR 1154

April 11

- domestic violence; CR 1670
- harassment; Hwy. 69S
- theft of property; 9th St. SE Garden City
- theft of property; CR 715
- assault; CR 1541
- criminal mischief; CR 555
- domestic violence; CR 1564

April 12

- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 437
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 91
- theft of property; CR 38
- domestic violence; CR 1623

ARRESTS

April 9-12

Boone, Stacey L.; 42
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Boone, Timothy A.; 31
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Bowers, David W.; 29
- sell/distribute – methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Bullard, Warren A.; 28
- public intoxication

Cineus, Christopher; 31
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Dixon, Douglas L.; 35
- promote prison contraband (drugs)

Doyle, Kenneth W.; 40
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled
- FTA – improper lights
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-child

Ellis, Stephanie J.; 44
- FTA – driving without license

Hernandez, Adriane A.; 24
- GJ – theft-miscellaneous

Holcomb, Hayden; 22
- DUI (alcohol)

Linton, Stephen A.; 64
- assault-harassment (simple assault)

Mahathey, James K.; 55
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-child

McDonald, Steven S.; 41
- FTA – violation of a domestic violence protection order

Myrick, Brandi M.; 49
- DUI (controlled substances)

Paris, Johnie D.; 55
- driving under the influence of alcohol and/or 0.08 percent or more by weight of alcohol in blood

Phillips, Jimmy C.; 64
- FTA – DUI (alcohol)
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled

Sanders, Danny R.; 62
- public intoxication

Stevens, Leroy C.; 43
- FTA – expired tag

Stewart. David R.; 51
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-child

Taylor, Sutherlin M.; 18
- DUI (alcohol)

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

April 7
- criminal mischief-2nd degree; person; damaged property; $2,800; Simmons St. SE

April 10
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $399; Hwy. 157

April 11
- criminal mischief-1st degree; City of Cullman; damaged property; $2,500; Field of Miracles Dr. SW
- burglary-3rd degree; person; damaged property; 2nd Ave. NW

ARRESTS

April 10-11

Scott, Pamela M.; 46
- FTA – criminal trespass-1st degree

Stewart, David R.; 51
- FTA – insurance violation

Pannell, Paris J; 22
- theft of property-4th degree

Birdwell, Kristian L.; 37
- GJ – organized retail theft
- GJ – retail theft of property-3rd degree (4 counts)

Parson, Jr., Michael R.; 18
- disorderly conduct
- attempt to elude

Stringer, Drake D.; 18
- disorderly conduct
- attempt to elude

McKinna, Matthew C.; 38
- FTA – public intoxication

Doyle, Kenneth W.; 40
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA – criminal trespass-2nd degree

Alexander, Eula D.; 64
- FTA – insurance violation

Flores-Gentle, Asiah M.; 23
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Galvan, Hector J.; 22
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- sale/possession of unlawful hemp products

Yocom, Anthony W.; 34
- DUI
- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Brooklyn Merriman crowned 2026 Miss Alabama Strawberry Festival

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Miss Alabama Strawberry Festival Pageant continues to play a key role in one of Cullman's most anticipated annual events. This year's pageant was held Saturday, April 12, at the Desperation Church Student Center. Fairview High School's Brooklyn Merriman took home the crown.

The pageant has been part of the festival for decades. While it was once held during festival weekend, organizers now host it in advance so Miss Alabama Strawberry Festival can take part in festival activities.

As the Strawberry Festival has grown throughout the years, so has the pageant.

"I think it's a great local pageant," Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Program Coordinator Jamie Kirk said. "Now that we've expanded to the Alabama Strawberry Festival, we have participants from all over Alabama."

The pageant It includes nine age divisions, beginning with infants and continuing through 12th grade. Miss Alabama Strawberry Festival is crowned from the 10th-12th grade category and serves as an ambassador for the festival. In that role, she attends the festival, participates in activities and is available for photos with attendees. She is also invited to represent the festival at other community events throughout the year, including Oktoberfest and the Christkindlmarkt.

The Alabama Strawberry Festival will take place April 24-25 at Depot Park. Learn more at www.alabamastrawberryfest.com.



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

2026 Miss Alabama Strawberry Festival Brooklyn Merriman

NOW HIRING TIRE TECHS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY

COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221

EDITORIAL

As cameras go up, questions follow

What is Flock Safety? What does it do? What does it mean for residents and visitors?

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

They are small, often mounted high on poles or along roadways, easy to miss unless you know what you are looking for.

But for many communities across the country, Flock cameras have become a growing part of modern policing.

The systems are operated by Flock Safety, a private company that provides automated license plate reader technology to law enforcement agencies, cities and even private neighborhoods.

The cameras capture images of passing vehicles, logging license plates, vehicle characteristics and timestamps into a searchable database.

The data collected by the system is stored on cloud servers operated by Amazon Web Services, including government-designated platforms used by law enforcement agencies.

While the company points to security and compliance standards, the use of third-party cloud infrastructure raises additional questions about who ultimately controls access to that information.

Supporters say the technology helps solve crimes, locate stolen vehicles and provide investigators with critical leads in minutes instead of hours.

Critics say it creates something else entirely.

They argue the system builds a quiet but expansive record of where people travel, often without their knowledge, raising concerns about privacy, data control and how that information may be used or shared.

The debate is not always about whether the technology works. In many cases, it does.

The debate is about what it collects, who controls it and how much the public truly understands about what is being gathered.

Flock Safety maintains that its system is designed with privacy in mind. The company says it does not use facial recognition, does not identify individuals and does not create a centralized national database.

It also says data is typically deleted after 30 days and that access is limited to authorized users.

However, a closer look at the company's own policies, legal terms and outside reporting reveals a more complex picture.

While data is described as locally controlled, agencies can opt into broader sharing networks. While the company says it does not collect personal information, license plate data can often be linked back to individuals through existing law enforcement systems.

While the company highlights a 30-day retention window, policies indicate that time frame can vary depending on local settings and legal requirements.

In short, many of the company's public claims are accurate, but often come with qualifiers that are not always immediately clear.

That distinction has fueled ongoing debate among civil liberties groups, policymakers and residents in communities where the cameras have been installed.

For Cullman, the questions are now local.

- Who approved the use of this technology?
- Where are the cameras located?
- What data is being collected and how long is it stored?
- Who has access to that information and how often is it used?

Those questions are not unique to Cullman, but they are becoming increasingly relevant as more communities adopt the system.

The Cullman Tribune has submitted public records requests seeking answers to those questions.

FOIA requests have been filed with the City of Cullman, Cullman Police Department, Cullman County Sheriff's Office and Hanceville City Hall.

Wallace State Community College elected to respond to questions without requiring a formal records request.

To better understand what Flock Safety says about its technology, and how those claims compare to its own policies and outside scrutiny, The Cullman Tribune has compiled the following breakdown.

What Flock Safety says vs. what documents and critics show

Q: Does Flock Safety create a national database of vehicle data?
A: Flock says no. The company states that each law enforcement agency controls its own data and that sharing is not automatic.

However, agencies can opt into regional and national sharing networks. Critics argue that once enough agencies participate, the system effectively becomes a large, interconnected surveillance network, even if it is technically optional.

Q: Who owns the data collected by Flock cameras?
A: Flock says the customer, typically a city or law enforcement agency, owns the data.

The company's legal terms also grant Flock a broad license to use that data to operate and improve its services, meaning control is not limited solely to the local agency.

Q: Does Flock collect personal information about individuals?
A: Flock says it only collects vehicle information and does not use facial recognition.

While technically accurate, license plates can often be linked to individuals through law enforcement databases, allowing movement tracking tied to a person.

Q: Can Flock cameras track where someone goes over time?
A: Flock says its cameras capture only single moments and do not track vehicles continuously.

Critics say that when multiple cameras are used across a city or region, those images can be combined to reconstruct travel patterns.

Q: How long is the data stored?
A: Flock says data is typically deleted after 30 days.

However, that time frame can vary depending on local policies and legal requirements.

Q: Who can access the data?
A: Flock says only authorized users can access the system and that all searches are logged.

Concerns remain about how widely data may be shared between agencies or accessed through legal processes.

Q: Has Flock faced any security concerns?
A: Flock emphasizes encryption and secure cloud storage.

Outside reporting has raised concerns about vulnerabilities and potential exposure, highlighting ongoing risks with large data systems.

Q: Does the system reduce bias in policing?
A: Flock says its technology does not use facial recognition or identify race or ethnicity.

Critics argue that tracking vehicle movement can still reveal sensitive personal patterns such as where someone lives, works or spends time.

Why it matters

The debate surrounding Flock Safety is not simply about technology. It is about oversight, transparency and how far surveillance tools should extend into everyday life.

As more communities adopt the system, the conversation is shifting from whether it works to how it is used and who is watching the watchers.

For Cullman, those answers are still taking shape.

2 dead following 2-vehicle wreck in Walter

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

WALTER, Ala. – Two people died as a result of a two-vehicle wreck Sunday evening in the Walter community in Cullman County.

Alabama State Troopers on Monday morning identified the victims as Oneal Kelley, 84, and Martha Kelley, 79, both of Arab.

Troopers said the crash occurred at approximately 6:15 p.m. Sunday. They said Oneal Kelley was fatally injured when the 2017 Nissan Rogue he was driving was struck by a 2011 Peterbilt tractor-trailer driven by Aaron C. Mitchell, 33, of Hanceville.

Oneal Kelly was pronounced deceased at the scene. The passenger of the Nissan, Martha Kelley, was critically injured and transported to Cullman Regional Medical Center, where she later succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased at the hospital.

The crash occurred on Alabama Highway 91 near County Road 649, approximately 6 miles east of Holly Pond, in Cullman County.

Nothing further is available as Troopers with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) Highway Patrol Division continue to investigate.

VIRGIL B. FOWLER
Real Estate and Insurance
AGENCY
Quality Since 1935
734-3821
vbfowlerinsurance.com
Successors to
WILLIAM RICHARD & SON INSURANCE
" Established 1885 "
Virgil B. Fowler 1895-1978 - Virgil B. Fowler Jr. 1937-2019 - Dorothy S. Fowler - Jason S. Fowler

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS
SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW
+
COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS
SFTWI
PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Good Hope Public Cemetery Decoration Weekend Clean-up Announcement
Good Hope Public Cemetery will hold its annual Decoration Weekend on Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3. Please have all worn flowers and decorations removed from the cemetery by Sunday, April 26. Any flowers and decorations remaining after April 26 will be subject to removal by cemetery maintenance with respect to condition. We ask that all new flowers and decorations be kept as close to the monuments as possible to aid in mowing. Donations to the cemetery can be sent to Good Hope Public Cemetery, P.O. Box 355 Cullman, AL 35056 and are tax deductible and help us to pay for cemetery upkeep. Thank you.

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, April 15 – 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, April 17 – 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, April 18 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
• Sunday, April 19 – 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. Prayer service at 2 p.m.

Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville
• 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.
• In April we continue the Poetry Contest! Please look at Facebook for contest details. We thank the Hanceville community for their book donations in helping us raise money for the children's programs. We also thank Jennifer and Tonya, owners of Southern Party Specialists LLC, for the $300 donation for a June presenter! We thank HanceVegas Coffee for sponsoring the Adult Book Club. We also thank the many library volunteers who help service the community.
• April 14, 11 a.m. Spanish class with Mrs. Alejandra Pena (She makes it fun with games!)
• April 15, 10 a.m. Storytime led by Rachel McFarland
• April 18, 10 a.m. Adult Book Club with Jennifer and Beth
• April 22, 10 a.m. Story time led by Cassy Holeyfield
• April 24, 6 p.m. Poetry Contest deadline and POETRY NIGHT
• April 28, 11 a.m. Spanish Class with Mrs. Alejandra Pena
• April 29, 10 a.m. Storytime and Children's Book club led by Briana Taylor
• May 23, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Grilled Cheese Festival and Library BOOK SALE
• May 27, Start of Summer program!

Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District Quarterly Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, at 9:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center, 501 Fourth St. SW, Cullman.

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

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing
Sunday, April 19, at 5 p.m. with The Kellys from Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278 East approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. Everyone is invited! For more information, call 256-796-5986 or 256-590-1501.

Pilot Club of Cullman Presents
CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250 YEARS
★ Fashion Show ★ Luncheon ★
Market Place ★ Fundraiser
22ND OF APRIL
1776-2026
The Venue at Cotton Creek
Tickets - $40 - Includes lunch by Chick-Fil-A and Just 2 chicks
See a Pilot Member for tickets or contact Brenda at 256-962-3601
Proceeds benefit - Project Lifesaver, Pilot Light Home, Hope Horses, Therapeutic Recreation, Restoring Woman Out Reach, and others

Borden Family Pharmacy
Established in 1999
Borden FAMILY PHARMACY
bordenfamilypharmacy.com
256-734-7535

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: office@cullmantribune.com
ANNUALLY BASED RATES
CULLMAN.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

Noah Galilee - Publisher
Dustin Isom - Associate Publisher
Chasady Woods - Reporter
Lauren Estes - Reporter
W.C. Mann - Reporter
Gauge Day - Reporter
Anabelle Howze - Reporter
Lucas Gray - Varsity Sports Editor
Sammy Confer - JV Sports Editor
Rhonda Richie - Newsroom Manager
Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

ARCHERY

Vinemont Elementary takes 2026 NASP State Championship behind top ten marks from Stracqualursi and Phillips

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Teams from across Alabama met at the Cramton Bowl Multiplex in Montgomery on Friday for the 2026 NASP Alabama State Championship. After finishing second in the 3-D State competition behind East Elementary in March, Vinemont Elementary's team got to celebrate with gold medals, taking first place with 3127 team points.

Leading the Eagles' boys was Ethan Stracqualursi, who nailed 11 tens on the way to a personal best 276 points. On the other side, Madelyn Phillips hit the bullseye eight times, recording 263 points and finishing eighth to lead the girls, who also saw Johannah Drake finish 9th and Serenity Blackmon finish 11th.

All Eagles' scores and rankings are below.

BOYS

- Ethan Stracqualursi – *276, 4th overall in elementary boys
- Bentley Guthery – *269, 9th overall
- Brenton Jones – 262, 20th overall
- Nolen Mount – 254, 42nd overall
- Oliver Drake – 250, 52nd overall
- Ace Creel – 248, 59th overall
- Bentley Garmon – *246, 70th overall
- Isaac Runge – *232, 134th overall
- Mason Pantoja – 232, 135th overall
- Easton Stewart – 232, 139th overall
- Raylynn Hodnett – 217, 212th overall

GIRLS

- Madelyn Phillips – 263, 8th overall in elementary girls
- Johannah Drake – 262, 9th overall
- Serenity Blackmon – *261, 11th overall
- Kynzlee Teichmiller – *261, 12th overall
- Kenady McClellan – 258, 17th overall
- Kora Cheatwood – 255, 21st overall
- MaKenlee Heaton – 253, 23rd overall
- Ivy Lee – *253, 24th overall
- Kimber Jarrett – *250, 30th overall
- Adalynn Taylor – *238, 68th overall
- Emmalynn Swann – 237, 72nd overall
- Harper Young – 222, 132nd overall
- Jaxlee Demonkowski – 204, 180th overall

*denotes a personal best mark



BOBBY JO CREEL/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Vinemont Elementary School's archery team

PREP BASEBALL

Big first inning, strong pitching by Drummond and Wallace helps Vinemont get past Locust Fork in area matchup, 7-4, plus Friday scoring recap

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — April has been very kind to the Vinemont Eagles so far, as they are 3-1 in their first four games of the month. They looked to keep that momentum going at home against Locust Fork on Fridaynight in a huge area game. Both teams went back and forth to start out the game, and Vinemont grabbed a lead that they wouldn't relinquish the rest of the game, as they ended up knocking off the Hornets, 7-4.

Carson Drummond got the start for Vinemont and struck out the first two batters he faced. Things quickly went downhill for Drummond and company after that, though, as Locust Fork loaded the bases with two outs. A pair of errors allowed Locust Fork to grab a 2-0 lead, and the Hornets later added another run to make it 3-0. The Eagles quickly responded in their half. Tucker Mauter hit a leadoff triple, and Josh Rhodes brought him home on a sacrifice fly to cut it to 3-1. Drummond lined a single to center field, then Preston Lee, his pinch-runner, ended up scoring on a pair of Locust Fork errors to make it a one-run game. The next two batters reached via a hit by pitch and a walk, then one out later, Ryne Dalton's RBI single tied the game up at three, and during the play, an error allowed Banks Borwick to score to give Vinemont a 4-3 lead.

Drummond collected three strikeouts in a scoreless second, and the Eagles got a two-out rally started in their half. Rhodes drew a walk, then he moved up to second on a passed ball. Drummond helped out his own cause by lining an RBI single to right field to make it 5-3. The Hornets put a pair of runners on with one out in the top of the third and later scored on an error to cut it to 5-4, but Vinemont got that run back and then some in their half. The Eagles loaded up the bases with one out, then Dalton scored on a Locust Fork error, and Rhodes added his second sacrifice fly of the game three pitches later to put them up, 7-4.

The game quickly turned into a pitcher's duel after that, as multiple Hornet pitchers and Drummond didn't allow a run for the next three innings. Locust Fork had one last chance to extend the game even further in the top of the seventh. A hit by pitch and a walk put runners at first and second with one out. Brayden Wallace, though, came in and collected the final two outs of the game to help the Eagles collect a huge 7-4 area win over the Hornets at home.

Rhodes finished with a pair of RBIs for Vinemont, while Drummond (two hits), Mauter (one hit), and Dalton (one hit) all drove in a run in the win. Drummond almost went the distance for the Eagles, as he went 6 1/3 innings, gave up four unearned runs, walked three, and struck out 13.

Vinemont (9-16) will head to Holly Pond next Monday.

Friday scoring recap

- Cold Springs 12, Winston County 2 – **Batting:** (CS) Sydney Ingram (four hits and two RBIs), Peyton Kennedy (one hit and two RBIs), Kotie Calvert (two RBIs), Kaydance Williams (hit and an RBI) **Pitching:** Kennedy – Five innings, five hits, two runs (one earned), two walks, and eight strikeouts

- Cullman 5, Albertville 4 – **Batting:** (C) Dracen Bates (one hit and two RBIs), Samantha Johnson (three hits and an RBI), Kynlei Storey (two hits and an RBI, including the game-winning RBI single in the bottom of the seventh), Reese Hopper (RBI) **Pitching:** Storey – Seven innings, 10 hits, four runs (three earned), one walk, and four strikeouts

- Hanceville 4, Vinemont 2 – **Batting:** (Hance.) Laila Lewis (one hit and two RBIs), Karrigan Pipkin (one hit and an RBI), Makayla Butler (RBI) – (Vine.) Bailey Howard (two hits and an RBI), Tori Vines (RBI) **Pitching:** Isabella Spinks, Butler and Kynzlee Farr: Seven innings combined, four hits, two runs (one earned), two walks, and 10 strikeouts – Vines: Six innings, five hits, four runs (one earned), three walks, and five strikeouts

TENNIS

Cullman tennis teams finish regular season with wins over Pell City

Nathan Bates
Cullman High School Tennis

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman High School Varsity Tennis traveled to Pell City to face the Panthers to end the regular season on Saturday. The Cullman girls came away with a 7-2 win to finish with a regular season record of 15-3, and the boys defeated Pell City 6-3 to finish with a 16-2 record.

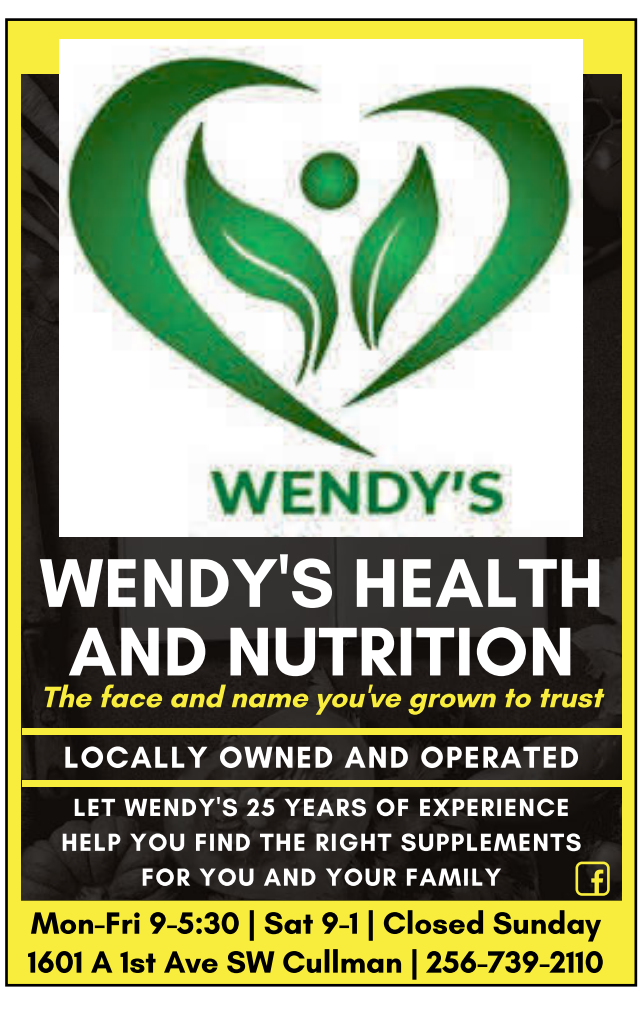
Both teams will travel to Decatur on Monday for the 6A, Section 7 Tournament.



NATHAN BATES/CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS

Cullman High School's boys tennis team







WDG WAREHOUSE DISCOUNT GROCERIES

Saving You Money Is What We're All About!

Warehouse Discount Groceries
5754 AL- Hwy 157 North
Cullman, AL 35055
256•739•4310

Warehouse Discount Groceries
1615 Town Square S W
Cullman, AL 35055
256•739•4380

Warehouse Discount Groceries
780 Main St. N E
Hanceville, AL 35077
256•352•6245

We Welcome Food Stamp Shoppers & W.I.C. Vouchers Accepted

Prices Effective - Wednesday, April 15 through Tuesday, April 21, 2026

APRIL SHOWERS of Savings

GROUND CHUCK
Fresh 80% Lean
Family Pack
$4.99 LB.



RIBEYE STEAKS
Beef Boneless
Family Pack
$10.99 LB.





SWEET VIDALIA ONIONS
First of the Season
3 Lb. Georgia Grown
$1.99 EA.



RUSSET POTATOES
8 Lb. Bag
U.S. #1 Colorado
$2.49 EA.

NIAGARA DRINKING WATER
24 Pk.
16.9 Oz.Bottles
3 for $10



MAXWELL HOUSE WAKE UP ROAST COFFEE
28.4 Oz.
Ground
$11.99 EA.





PREGO PASTA SAUCE
14-24 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$1.88 EA.



KELLOGG'S CEREAL
8 Oz. Apple Jacks, Corn Pops or Froot Loops, 9 Oz. Rice Krispies, Froot Loops Marshmallow, 10 Oz. Frosted Krispies, Apple Jacks, 12 Oz. Cocoa Krispies, 10-12 Oz. Frosted Flakes, Original, Chocolate or Strawberry Milkshake
2 for $6

FOOD CLUB CHEESE
32 Oz. Chunk or Shredded
Selected Varieties
$5.99 EA.



TOTINO'S PIZZA ROLLS
24 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$3.99 EA.



5754 AL- Hwy 157 N Cullman, AL

1615 Town Square S W Cullman, AL

780 Main St. N E Hanceville, AL



Product Availability May Vary • Good Only While Supplies Last • We Reserve The Right to Limit Quantities • Not Responsible For Typographical Errors • No Sales To Dealers At These Prices



RIBEYE STEAKS
Beef Boneless
Family Pack
$15.99 LB.



BOSTON BUTT PORK ROAST
Fresh
Whole
$1.99 LB.



SHOULDER ROAST
Beef
Boneless
$6.49 LB.



ST. LOUIS STYLE PORK RIBS
Previously Frozen
$3.49 LB.



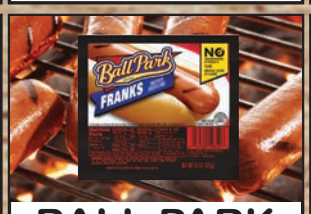
CHICKEN TENDERS
2 Lb. Breaded
Restaurant Quality
$4.99 EA.



BRYAN BACON
12 Oz.
Regular or Thick
2 for $7



SWAGGERTY'S SAUSAGE
1 Lb. Roll
Mild or Hot
2 for $7



BALL PARK FRANKS
15 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$2.99 EA.



BRYAN BOLOGNA
12 Oz.
Regular or Thick
$1.79 EA.



WRIGHT BACON
40 Oz. Stack Pack
Hickory Smoked
$12.99 EA.



HILLSHIRE FARM SMOKED SAUSAGE
12-14 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$3.99 EA.



BRYAN HAM OR TURKEY
10 Oz. 4x6 Pkg.
Selected Varieties
$2.99 EA.



DEAN'S SAUSAGE PATTIES
18 Ct.
$5.49 EA.



BROOKWOOD FARMS BARBECUE
15-16 Oz. Real Pit Cooked
Selected Varieties
$4.29 EA.



GREAT AMERICAN CATFISH FILLET PORTIONS
2 Lb.
USA
$9.99 EA.



ICEBERG LETTUCE
California
$1.49 EA.



BEEFSTEAK TOMATOES
Hothouse
Grown
$1.99 LB.



CALIFORNIA NAVELS
4 Lb. Bag
Great Healthy Snack
$3.99 EA.



ZUCCHINI OR YELLOW SQUASH
Fresh
$1.49 LB.



LITTLE LEAF FARMS LEAF LETTUCES
4 Oz. Sweet Baby Butter,
Sweet & Crispy or Romaine
$2.99 EA.



KRAFT SINGLES
12 Oz. American
Yellow or White
2 for $7



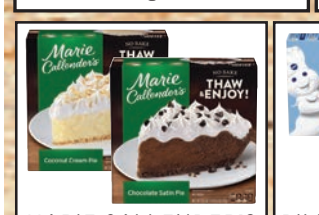
FOOD CLUB PURE PREMIUM ORANGE JUICE
52 Oz. Not From Concentrate
Selected Varieties
$3.99 EA.



IMPERIAL SPREAD
45 Oz.
Bowl
$2.99 EA.



NEW YORK BAKERY GARLIC BREAD OR TOAST
7-13 Oz. Selected Varieties
or 10.5 Oz. Breadsticks
2 for $6



MARIE CALLENDER'S PIES
24-40 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$5.99 EA.



PILLSBURY TOASTER STRUDEL PASTRIES
9-12 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



BLUE BELL ICE CREAM SANDWICHES
12 Pk. Regular
or 16 Pk. Minis
$5.99 EA.



BLUE BELL FROZEN BARS
12 Pk. Fudge,
Mooo or Krunch
$4.99 EA.



CRAV'N FLAVOR SALTINE CRACKERS
16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $3



CRAV'N FLAVOR PORK RINDS
4 Oz.
Selected Varieties
3 for $5



HUNT'S KETCHUP
20 Oz.
2 for $3



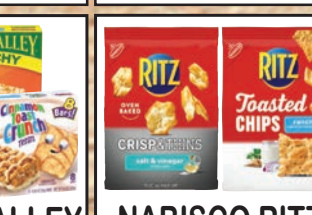
KEN'S SALAD DRESSING
16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7



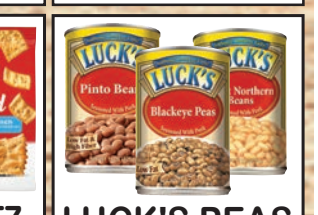
KELLOGG'S POP•TARTS
5-8 Ct., 10-14 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



FOOD CLUB INSTANT OATMEAL
8-10 Ct.
Selected Varieties
2 for $4



NATURE VALLEY GRANOLA BARS
or General Mills Cereal Bars
5-8.9 Oz. Selected Varieties
2 for $5



NABISCO RITZ TOASTED CHIPS
or Crisp & Thins 7-8 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$3.99 EA.



MARIE CALLENDER'S PIES
24-40 Oz.
Selected Varieties
$5.99 EA.



PILLSBURY TOASTER STRUDEL PASTRIES
9-12 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $5



BLUE BELL ICE CREAM SANDWICHES
12 Pk. Regular
or 16 Pk. Minis
$5.99 EA.



BLUE BELL FROZEN BARS
12 Pk. Fudge,
Mooo or Krunch
$4.99 EA.

CRAV'N FLAVOR SALTINE CRACKERS
16 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $3

CRAV'N FLAVOR PORK RINDS
4 Oz.
Selected Varieties
3 for $5

VELVEETA SKILLETS
11.5-12.5 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6

QUILTED NORTHERN OR BRAWNY
6 Mega Rolls Bath Tissue or
4 Double Rolls Paper Towels
$8.99 EA.

SUN DROP, 7•UP, RC COLA OR A&W
12 Pk.
12 Oz. Cans
2 for $12

SUN DROP, 7•UP, RC COLA OR A&W
6 Pk.
.5 Liter Bottles
3 for $12

FRITO LAY DORITOS
6-10.75 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7

RUFFLES POTATO CHIPS
5.5-10.75 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $7

LEWIS BAKE SHOP BREAD
20 Oz. Loaf Honey Wheat
or Soft Twist White
2 for $5

LITTLE DEBBIE SNACKS
8.46-13.1 Oz. Honey Buns, Cosmic Brownies, Swiss, Zebra or Strawberry Shortcake Rolls, Zebra Cake, Pecan Spinwheels or Donut Sticks
2 for $5

SUNBELT GRANOLA OR SOFT BAKED BARS
7.61-11 Oz.
Selected Varieties
2 for $6

MILLER HIGH LIFE
12 Pk.
Cans or Bottles
$11.99 EA.

BUSCH LIGHT
18 Pk.
Cans
$14.99 EA.

JACK DANIEL'S COUNTRY COCKTAILS
6 Pk.
Bottles
$7.99 EA.

CHARTER RESERVE SMOKED GOUDA
or Havarti Cheese
Deli Sliced
$7.99 LB.

KENTUCKIAN GOLD BROWN SUGAR HAM
Deli Sliced
$7.99 LB.

DOUBLE CHOCOLATE VARIETY CAKE
42 Oz.
$17.99 EA.

FRIED CHICKEN
Fresh 8 Piece
Bone-In
$8.99 EA.

JALAPENO CHEESE BREAD
Fresh Made
Loaf
$3.99 EA.

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE CAKE
Fresh Made
8-Inch
$12.99 EA.

Deli & Bakery Specials — Hanceville Location

Stiefelmeyer (from Front)

By mid-morning, crews were still working to access the source of the fire.

"They are still working to reach the source of the fire, which is expected to take some time," Bright said.

"Fire crews are currently on the roof, cutting through with saws to access the area where they believe the fire originated. A lift has also been brought into the alley to assist with roof access."

Bright said power restoration efforts remain delayed due to safety concerns.

"Due to the location of an overhead power line in that alley and the operation of the lift, it is not safe at this time to re-energize the line to restore power to surrounding customers," Bright said. "The fire department will notify us once the fire is under control so we can assess and begin restoring power to customers who are able to receive service."

Cullman City Council President Kim Hall said the loss extends beyond the structure itself, reflecting a deeper impact on the community and its history.

"Today, Cullman didn't just lose a building. We lost a piece of our history that can't be replaced," Hall said. "What made this loss especially hard is that the building was one of the last remaining wooden commercial structures in the downtown area. While much of the city rebuilt in brick after early fires, this one endured. It carried with it the look, feel and craftsmanship of a much earlier time."

Hall said the response from first responders and the community was significant.

"Our firefighters have battled this fire tirelessly throughout the day. Their commitment and resolve has been inspiring!" she said. "We are grateful for the work of Cullman Fire Rescue and the Cullman Police Department, Water Department, Sanitation, Cullman Power Board, neighboring agencies and for the generosity and concern shown by so many local citizens, businesses and organizations who stepped in to assist during the emergency response."

Part of Cullman's early downtown development

The Stiefelmeyer Building is located within one of the oldest developed sections of Cullman, an area shaped by the city's early growth following its founding in the 1870s.

The current structure was constructed in 1892 after an earlier building on the site was destroyed by fire that same year.

The original Stiefelmeyer business had opened in 1888, making the location one of the earlier established commercial sites in the city's development.

Downtown Cullman transitioned from wood-frame construction to more permanent brick structures in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, particularly after early fires influenced building practices. Many of the buildings still standing today reflect that shift.

The Stiefelmeyer Building remains one of those structures that has endured as part of the city's historic streetscape.

Longstanding commercial presence

Over the years, the building has served as a commercial space, consistent with surrounding properties that have historically housed retail, offices and service-based businesses.

An expansion to the structure was completed around 1900, reflecting continued growth and use during Cullman's early commercial development.

Its location along a primary corridor has kept it tied to daily activity in the downtown area, contributing to the continuity of Cullman's business district.

While additional records regarding specific early tenants are still being reviewed, the building is recognized locally as part of Cullman's older commercial inventory.

Continued use and preservation

Like many downtown buildings of its era, the structure has remained in use through ongoing maintenance and updates, allowing it to function in a modern capacity while retaining its historic exterior character.

Downtown Cullman's identity continues to be shaped by these preserved structures, which reflect multiple generations of business and community activity.

Investigation ongoing

Officials have not released a cause of the fire, and the extent of damage has not yet been confirmed.

Bright said coordination is underway between city departments to evaluate restoring power to unaffected portions of the block. "We've just talked with Brandon Lewis at the Building Department. He has requested a meeting with his department, the fire department and us (CPB) to evaluate where we are with possible power restoration to the unaffected parts of that block," Bright said. "The meeting time has not been scheduled but my guess is it will most likely be first thing."

Additional historical details about the building, including past tenants, are being reviewed through Tribune archives and Cullman County Museum records.

The building is located at the corner of First Avenue Southeast and Second Street Southeast.

This story will be updated as more information becomes available. Check www.CullmanTribune.com for the very latest.


MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


NOAH GALILEE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



NOAH GALILEE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


NOAH GALILEE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Obituary Announcements: April 11-13

Janice Jones, 77
Funeral service for Janice Jones, 77 of Cullman, will be Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 2 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, with Bro. John Garrison officiating. Visitation was Monday, April 13, 2026, from 5-7 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Mrs. Jones will lie in state on Tuesday from noon-2 p.m., prior to the funeral service. She will be laid to rest at Ellenburg Cemetery in Hulaco. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Janice was born on Jan. 30, 1949, to Willie Edward Allred and Jessie Jewel Hancock Allred. She passed away at Cullman Regional Medical Center on Saturday, April 11, 2026. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Mural Gordon Jones; son, Mel Jones. She is survived by four children, Renea Gaines (Randy), Tina Bright (Jason), Tammy Evans (Jody Wilson), and Maylon Jones (Mary); grandchildren, Tiffany (Justin) Williams, Courtney McLeod (Mike), Kaleb Jones, Eric Chumley, Brodie Curvin (Lexie), Bryant Curvin, Kehl Bright (Emily), and Creek Evans; great-grandchildren, Wyatt Williams, Jackson Williams, Layla Ray, Conner Ray, Asher Lane, and Kinley Curvin; sisters, Sue Mills (Robbie), Betty Keenum (Earskin), Wanda Pigg (Matt); brother, Donald Ray Allred; special friend, Robert Kilgo; and a host of family and friends.

Sarah Alice Walker, 84
Funeral services for Sarah Alice Walker, 84, of Hanceville will be 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 14, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Center Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from 10-11 a.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Walker was born Sept. 19, 1941, in Tennessee to the late Benjamin and Lucille McGill. She passed away April 12, 2026, in Hanceville, Alabama. Sarah Alice Walker, of Hanceville, passed away peacefully, leaving behind a legacy of strength, love, and devotion to her family. Sarah was a loving mother and grandmother who found her greatest joy in caring for those she loved. Her family was the center of her world, and she treasured every moment spent with them. She had a special love for crafts and flowers, especially African violets. Her creativity and gentle spirit were reflected in everything she made and nurtured. Sarah was a true fighter, courageously battling and surviving cancer four times. Her resilience and determination were an inspiration to all who knew her, a testament to her strength and faith. She also found simple joy in life's quiet moments, especially riding around on Sunday afternoons, taking in the beauty of the world around her. Sarah will be deeply missed by her family and friends, but her love, strength, and memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her Mrs. Walker is survived by her children, Kenneth Brockman (Lynn), Eddie Brockman, Debbie Cockran (Stone), Lisa Ivey, Jane Bullit, Teresa Brockman Price; sister, Rachel Newman; and a host of grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Mrs. Walker was preceded in death by her husband, Billy Walker; son, Bobby Brockman; grandson, Bo Brockman; and her brothers, Tom McGill, Roy McGill, John McGill. Serving as pallbearers will be Cameron Brockman, Sam Neighbors, Kelly Elliot, Jackson Wilkens, Brodye Bagwell, and J.C. Corneglio. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Walker family.

Janice Eason Tucker, 78
Funeral service for Janice Eason Tucker, 78, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Good Hope Cemetery, Bro. Tim Box and Bro. Benjamin Smothers officiating. The family will receive friends from noon-2 p.m. prior to the service. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Tucker passed away Monday, April 13, 2026, at her residence surrounded by her loved ones. She was born Oct. 1, 1947, to James Eddie and Lois Sharlene Sisson Eason. Janice was a dedicated, long time member of Valley Springs Baptist Church where her husband of 46 years, L.D. Tucker served as deacon until his death. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and loved her family. She enjoyed cooking and making sure everyone ate. She had a servant's heart and was devoted to serving others. She was a talented seamstress. The girls remembered her making their school clothes while they were growing up. She was a lab techician and a homemaker. She leaves behind a legacy of which her family can be proud. Janice was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, L.D. Tucker; daughter, Shellie Blackwood, and her sister, Jo Armstrong. Those left to cherish her memory are her daughters, Jana (Chris) McAfee, Rita (Jason) Rodgers; brother, Ken Eason; sister, Sherry Kilgo; grandchildren, Leslie Simmons, Hannah Beth Smith, Toby Blackwood, Tucker McAfee, Alison McAfee; nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Cullman Funeral Home and Crematory
– "Sincere Compassionate Care" –

CULLMAN'S ON-SITE STATE OF THE ART CREMATORY NOW OPEN
DIRECT CREMATION $1,695 | NO HIDDEN COSTS

100% Locally Owned & Operated by Steve and Hilda Rodgers

(256) 734-3144
461 U.S. Highway 278 East
Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.cullmanfuneralhome.com

FREE OBITUARY LISTINGS

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

Email: obits@cullmantribune.com

Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanTribune.com/obituaries.

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

LEGALS

PURSUANT TO ALABAMA CODE 32-13-1, EARLS BODY SHOP INC. WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES ON SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION THE VOLLOWING VEHICLES :

DATE 05-26-2026
TIME 7:00: AM
LOCATION: 2251 DECATUR AVE NW
CULLMAN AL 35058

2010	FORD	FOCUS	1FAHP3FN0AW276105
2017	TOYOTA	COROLLA	2T1BURHEXHC792094
2013	HYUNDAI	ELANTRA GLS	KMHDH4AE8DU526561
2004	MITSUBISHI	ENDEAVOR	4A4MM21S24E005526
2003	CADILLAC	DEV	1G6KD57Y43U286019

RUN DATES: 04/7/26 AND 04/14/2026

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF *
D.L.S., * **CASE NO.: JU 19-341.05**
a minor, DOB: 12-22-2009. *

NOTICE OF TERMINATION HEARING

MICHAEL NEAL STACKS, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Cullman County Department of Human Resources in regards to a minor child born on December 22, 2009, to Julie Lynn Massey by the 12 day of May, 2026, or thereafter a judgment terminating his parental rights may be entered against him in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 27 day of March, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

Petitioner:
Cullman County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 990
1220 St. Joseph Street NW
Cullman, AL 35056

FILED IN OFFICE
MAR 27 2026
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

Perry D. Knight
Attorney for Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
RICHARD CHARLES LINLEY, * **CASE NO.: PC 2026-084**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to CHARLES JOSEPH LINLEY, as Personal Representatives of the Estate of RICHARD CHARLES LINLEY, deceased, on the 27th 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.

Charles Joseph Linley
Personal Representatives

Richard L. Collins
Attorney for the Estate
PO Box 669
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, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
TRAVIS DEWAYNE POWE, CASE NO PC 2024-267
Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION OF ADMINISTRATION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

TO: CAMERON SLADE FOX AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Petition of Administration for Final Settlement filed by Damion Ethan Kane Powe, Petitioner, by and through Attorney, Annette Irons Parker has been scheduled for the **25th day of June, 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 27th day of March, 2026.

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.

Annette Irons Parker
Attorney for Petitioner
215 Main Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
KYLE BYNO ABSHER, * CASE NO PC 2025-433
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL and AMENDMENT TO PETITION TO PROBATE WILL

TO: TIMOTHY KYLE ABSHER, ASHLEY LEIGH ABSHER AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Petition for Probate of Will, filed by Iva Absher Thomas, Petitioner and *Amendment to Petition to Probate Will* filed by G. Edward Coey, Attorney, has been scheduled for the **25th day of June, 2026, at 10:00 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 26th day of March, 2026

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.

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 834
Hanceville, Alabama 35077

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
PHILLIP JEREMY COX) CASE NO.: PC 2026 - 138
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to Leslie Rena Cox, as Administratrix of the Estate of Phillip Jeremy Cox, deceased, on the 2nd day of April, 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.

Leslie Rena Cox

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, JUDGE OF PROBATE

STATE OF ALABAMA)
) **NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Date & Time of Sale: Monday, April 27 2026 at 11:00 a.m./p.m.
Sale Location: Cullman County Courthouse East Entrance
500 Second Avenue, S.W.
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Writ of Execution Parties: Edgefield Holdings, LLC
vs.
Danny Ponder
5935 County Road 1114
Vinemont, AL 35179

By virtue of an Execution issued to me by Circuit Clerk Jacqueline Anderson Smith, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Execution issued on a judgment, with interest and cost. Upon the expiration of proper notice and advertisement, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time, and location listed above, all right, title, and interest of Danny Ponder, to the property, described as follows:

Commence at the Northwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the South Quarter, Section 17, Township 9 South, Range 4 West, thence South 0°00" East a distance of 667 feet to a point, said point being on the North right of way of Alabama Highway #157; thence South 52° 14' East a distance of 410 feet to the true point of beginning; thence South 52° 14" East a distance of 410 feet to the true point of beginning; thence continue along said right of way a distance of 435 feet to a point where County paved road intersects said right of way; thence North 13° 25' East along County road a distance of 345 feet to a point; thence South 89° 25' West a distance of 436 feet to a point; thence South 0° 00' East a distance of 59 feet to the point of beginning. Said land lying and being situated in the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, Section 17, Township 9 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama.

LESS AND EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING: Commence at the Southwest corner of said Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter; thence Northerly along the West line of said Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter a distance of 198 meters, more or less, to the present Northeast right of way line of Alabama Highway No. 157; thence Southeasterly along said present Northeast right of way line a distance of 125 meters, more or less, to the West line of the property herein to be conveyed and the point of beginning; thence Noriherly along the West property line a distance of 18 meters, more or less, to the North property line; thence Easterly along said North property line a distance of 57 meters, more or less to a point that is 35 meters northeasterly of and at right angles to the centerline of said project; thence S 51° 09' 22.9" E parallel with the said centerline, distance of 65 meters, more or less, to a point that is 35 meters Northeasterly of an at right angles to said centerline at Stateion 66 + 40; thence Northeasterly along a line a distance of 16 meters, more or less, to a point on the present northwest right of way line of County Road No. 1224 that is northwesterly of and at right angles to the centerline of said road at Station 10 + 55; thence Southwesterly along said present northwest right of way line a distance of 68 meters, more or less, to said present northeast right of way line; thence northwesterly along said present northeast right of way line a distance of 133 meters, more or less, to the point of beginning.

Source of title: Pursuant to the description provided in Plaintiff's Writ of Execution issued on or about 19 February 2026 in case CV-2010-900261 in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama.

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Danny Ponder in and to the above-described real property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 31 day of March, 2026.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
)
HIRAM J. BROWN, JR.,) **Case Number: PC2026- 137**
)
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama

In the matter of the Estate of Hiram J. Brown, Jr., Deceased

Letters Testamentary upon last will and testament of said decedent, having been granted to the undersigned on the 26th day of March, 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.

Patty B. Hutchens
Personal Representative

Tonya C. Palmer
Attorney for Personal Representative
1939 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 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, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Local students, leaders honored with statewide Farm-City Awards

Farm-City grows Alabama through service, student success

Maggie Gaddy
Contributor

AUBURN, Ala. — Service and community involvement took center stage as farmers, leaders and students came together for the Farm-City Banquet April 9 in Auburn, recognizing achievements and embracing this year's theme, "Grow Alabama."

The theme was a callback to "Agriculture & Forestry Grow Alabama: An Economic Contribution Study" released last year by Alabama Agribusiness Council, Auburn University and Alabama Extension.

Alabama Farm-City Committee Chairman Jeff Helms said the committee hoped "Grow Alabama" would help students and volunteers understand the importance of agriculture while learning what kinds of farmers and forest landowners are in their local areas.

"We were amazed at the talent this year," said Helms, the Alabama Farmers Federation communications director. "From brightly detailed posters and carefully crafted essays to top-notch Farm-City tours and banquets, 2025 was a big year for county participation. The theme was wonderfully incorporated in so many unique ways. Grow Alabama is a great reminder of the role farmers play in the state and national economy."

Top-performing students

Eighteen kindergarten through 12th-grade students were honored for their displays of ways agriculture grows Alabama in poster, essay and video formats.

Winners and runners-up in poster and essay contests received cash prizes from Alabama Ag in the Classroom, while Alabama Farmers Cooperative (AFC) sponsored the video contest. Schools of first- and second-place scorers received matching cash prizes.

Winning works will be featured in the 2027 Alabama Farm-City Calendar.

Poster Contest, Kindergarten-Third Grade

- First and $200: Maxston Blankenship, Ariton School, Dale County
- Second and $100: Adah Morris, The Lakeside School, Barbour County
- Third and $75: Blakely Johnson, Woodland Elementary School, Randolph County
- Fourth and $60: Ian Romero, Sacred Heart School, Cullman County
- Fifth and $40: Laelah Cottingham, Ashville Elementary School, St. Clair County
- Sixth and $25: Avery Langley, Chambers Academy, Chambers County

Poster Contest, Fourth-Sixth Grade

- First and $200: Frasier Johnson, Pathways Academy, Etowah County
- Second and $100: Elyse Williams, homeschool, Marshall County
- Third and $75: Eliana Countryman, Ashville Elementary School, St. Clair County
- Fourth and $60: Eli Humphries, Red Bay Elementary School, Franklin County
- Fifth and $40: Jazmine Perry, West Point Intermediate, Cullman County
- Sixth and $25: Kase Riley, Bagley Elementary School, Jefferson County

Essay Contest, Seventh-Ninth Grade

- First and $300: Timber Cunningham, Vernon Intermediate, Lamar County
- Second and $200: Kathryn Moore, G.W. Long High School, Dale County

Essay Contest, 10th-12th Grade

- First and $300: Emma Rambo, Phil Campbell High School, Franklin County
- Second and $200: Shelemiah Kelly, Central High School, Coosa County

Video Contest, Ninth-12th Grade

- First and $300: Emily McDaniel, Corner High School, Jefferson County
- Second and $200: Ella Hicks, G.W. Long High School, Dale County

Top-Performing Counties

In addition to selecting student winners, judges pored over exceptional entries from county Farm-City committees.

Division winners scored $300 from the Alabama Farmers Agriculture Foundation, while runners-up received $200. Each category win netted committees $100.

Division I

- Lee County: Best Farm-City Committee, Best Farm-City Tour
- Cullman County: Runner-Up Best Farm City Committee
- St. Clair County: Scrapbook Award
- DeKalb County: Innovative Idea Award, Best Special Activities
- Jefferson County: Best Farm-City Dinner
- Marshall County: Best Media Coverage/Proclamation
- Houston County: Best Civic Club Programs
- Montgomery County: Target Award

Division II

- Geneva County: Best Farm-City Committee, Best Farm-City Dinner
- Dale County: Runner-Up Best Farm City Committee, Scrapbook Award, Target Award
- Cherokee County: Best Farm-City Tour
- Henry County: Innovative Idea Award
- Clay County: Best Media Coverage/Proclamation
- Franklin County: Best Civic Club Activities
- Fayette County: Best Special Activities

Additionally, Debbie Dunn and Sharon Turner of Geneva County were honored as the Volunteers of the Year, while Zandi Foss of Dale County received the Farm-City Service Award.

Farm of Distinction

During the program, CK Cattle of Lowndes County was named the 2026 Farm of Distinction for its commitment to stewardship, support of young farmers and community impact.

Chuck and Katie Madaris manage the three-generation cattle operation in Hope Hull alongside family. CK Cattle produces Angus, Chiangus and SimAngus seedstock cattle and commercial cattle.

As Farm of Distinction winners, the Madaris family will receive an engraved farm sign from Alfa Insurance and the Federation; a zero-turn Grasshopper mower from Alfa Farmers Member Perks; a John Deere Gator from John Deere, SunSouth and TriGreen; $1,000 from First South Farm Credit; and a $1,000 gift card from AFC.

Additionally, Chuck will represent Alabama during the Sunbelt Ag Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year contest this fall.

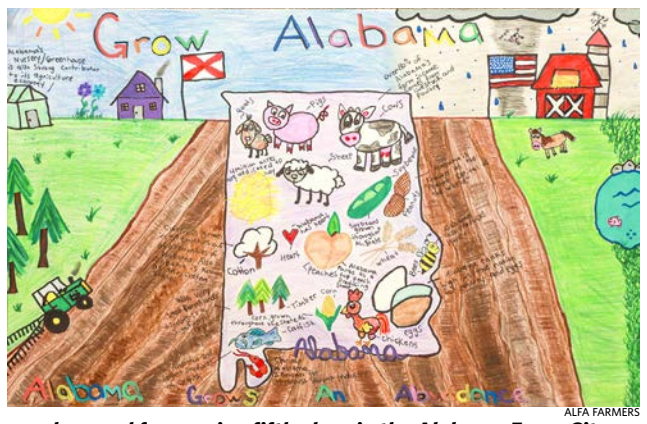




ALFA FARMERS

Ian Romero of Sacred Heart School in Cullman County was honored for earning fourth place in the Alabama Farm-City poster contest for students in kindergarten through third grade during the Alabama Farm-City Awards Luncheon in Auburn April 9. Romero received $60 from Alabama Ag in the Classroom (AITC) for his poster, which was created around the theme Grow Alabama. From left are Alabama Farm-City Committee Chair Jeff Helms, Romero and Alabama AITC Steering Committee Chair Kim Earwood.





ALFA FARMERS

Jazmine Perry of West Point Intermediate School in Cullman County was honored for earning fifth place in the Alabama Farm-City poster contest for students in fourth through sixth grade during the Alabama Farm-City Awards Luncheon in Auburn April 9. Perry received $40 from Alabama Ag in the Classroom (AITC) for the poster, which was created around the theme Grow Alabama. From left are Alabama Farm-City Committee Chair Jeff Helms, Perry and Alabama AITC Steering Committee Chair Kim Earwood.



ALFA FARMERS

The Cullman County Farm-City Committee was named the Runner-Up Best Farm-City Committee for larger population counties during the Alabama Farm-City Awards Luncheon in Auburn April 9. Cullman County received cash prizes from the Alabama Farmers Agriculture Foundation (AFAF) for their work, which centered around the theme Grow Alabama. Highlights included hosting ag tours, engaging with civic organizations, a banquet, inviting leaders to a proclamation breakfast, working with local news media and connecting with the community through five major events. From left are Alabama Farm-City Committee Chair Jeff Helms, Cullman County Farm-City Committee Chair Tiffany Oldacre and AFAF board member Mahlon Richburg.

Wallace State to host Watch Party for 'The College Tour' episode premiere

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College will host an exclusive Watch Party for the premiere of its episode of The College Tour on Wednesday, April 15, at noon in the Betty Leeth Haynes Theatre.

The Watch Party offers attendees an early look at the episode before it is released to the public. Members of The College Tour cast will be on hand for the event, providing guests the opportunity to meet the students who shared their experiences and represented Wallace State on the nationally recognized series.

Adding to the excitement, red carpet photo opportunities will be available, giving attendees a chance to capture the moment and celebrate Wallace State's national spotlight.

The student cast members for Wallace State's episode of "The College Tour" include Diana Boatright of Locust Fork, Jackson Flanigan of Cullman, Johnathan Gray of Daphne, ReAnna Rusk of Fairview and Anna Wynn of Huntsville. Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics also appears in a one-on-one interview with host Alex Boylan.

The College Tour is a popular higher education series that features colleges and universities through authentic student stories and behind-the-scenes perspectives on campus life and academics.

Wallace State's episode will be made public on Thursday, April 16, on The College Tour website and will premiere on Amazon Prime in June.

The Watch Party is free and open to students, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the community. Guests are encouraged to arrive early.

For more information about the Watch Party or Wallace State Community College, visit www.wallacestate.edu/tct.



WALLACE STATE

Wallace State students are filmed during the production of "The College Tour" episode.

Wallace State Jazz Band hosting annual Big Band Dance April 17

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College will host the annual Big Band Dance on Friday, April 17, at 7 p.m., in the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts.

The event will feature the Wallace State Jazz Band and the WSCC alumni Jazz Band. More than 20 former Wallace State Jazz Band musicians plan to attend and perform with the group, representing alumni from the late 1970s to more recent graduates from the Class of 2025.

"We are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Wallace State Jazz Band," said Ricky Burks, chair of Wallace State's Fine and Performing Arts programs and director of the Jazz Band. "We are excited to welcome former members back to the stage, including one from the original 1976 band."

The concert will feature a selection of classic Big Band favorites.

Audience members are encouraged to hit the dance floor or simply relax and enjoy the music from their seats.

Admission to the Big Band Dance is a $10 donation for adults and $5 for students and children under 12. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Other performances planned by Wallace State Fine and Performing arts this spring include:

- Spring Under the Stars and Stripes, April 23
- Broadway Night, April 30
- "I Am a Pilgrim," July 23-25

For more information about the Fine and Performing Arts programs, visit www.wallacestate.edu/fpa, call 256-352-8277 or email amy.seymore@wallacestate.edu.



WALLACE STATE

The Wallace State Jazz Band will hold its annual Big Band Dance on Friday, April 17 at 7 p.m., at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts.

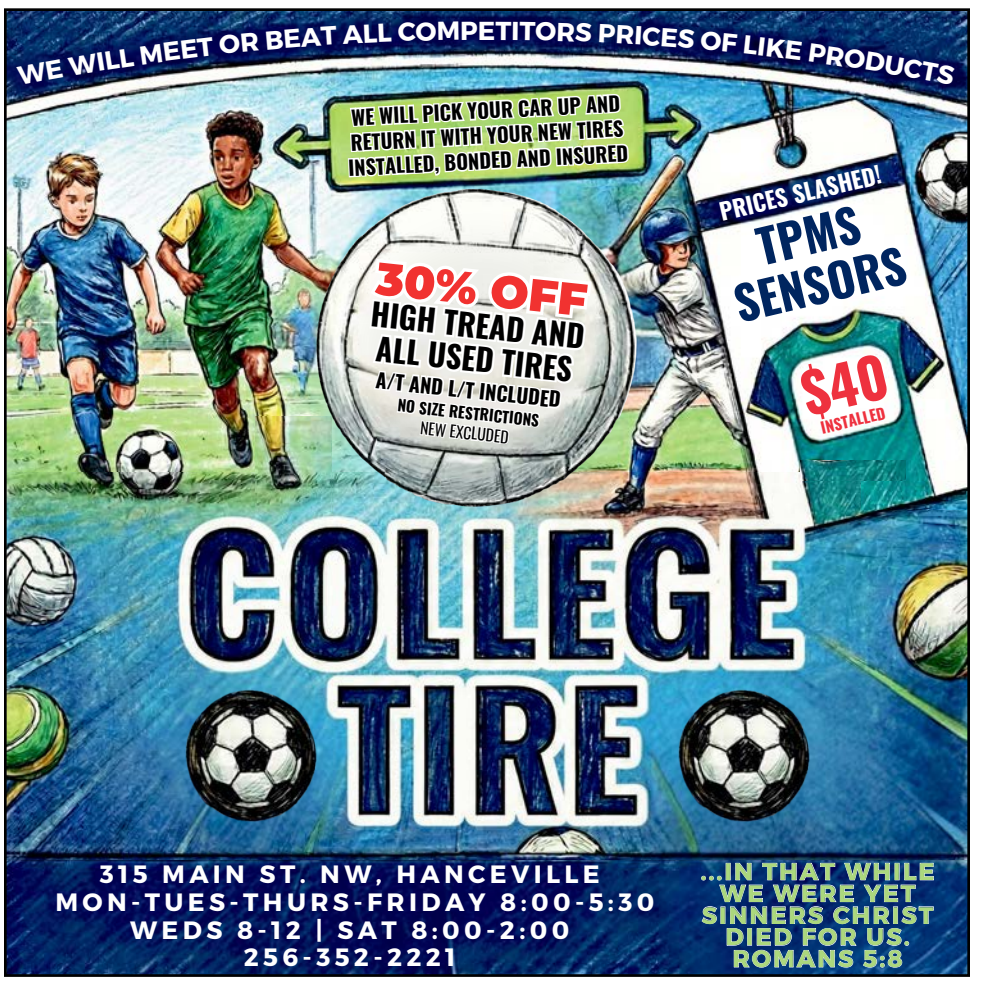
April is National Safe Digging Month
Cullman-Jefferson Gas



One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

Safe Digging Is No Accident:
Always Call 811 Before You Dig.

ALABAMA 811
www.al811.com
07020004070413O



THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Bill Smith

BUICK GMC
WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

GMC DEALER OF THE YEAR
8 YEARS IN A ROW!

Transform your journey with Bill's Deals!

2026 GMC Yukon XL Denali
STK# 69149
- 10 Speed Automatic with Overdrive
- Magnetic Ride Control Suspension
- Remote Entry/Remote Start
- 6.2L EcoTec3 V8



WAS $91,815
NOW $86,815
SAVE $5,000!

2026 GMC Sierra 1500 Elevation
STK# 68994A
- 5.3L EcoTec V8
- X31 Off-Road Package
- 20" Painted Aluminum Wheels
- Keyless Open & Start



CALL FOR PRICE
SAVE BIG!

2026 BUICK Encore GX Sport Touring
STK# 64176
- 1.3L EcoTec Turbo
- 18" Gloss Black Aluminum Wheels
- Remote Entry



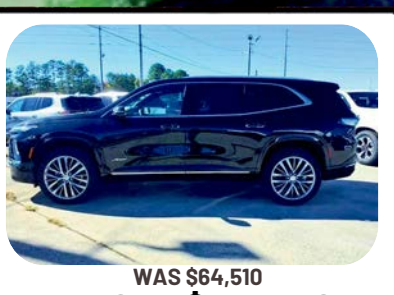
WAS $30,685
NOW $24,435
SAVE $6,250

2026 GMC Sierra 1500 Denali Ultimate
STK# 68225
- 6.2L EcoTec3 V8
- Super Cruise
- Kicker MultiPro Tailgate Audio System
- Front & Rear Park Assist



WAS $87,390
NOW $72,890
SAVE $14,500!

2026 BUICK Enclave Avenir
STK# 64057
- Super Cruise
- Enhanced Automatic Park Assist
- Power Moonroof
- 2.5L DOHC FWD



WAS $64,510
NOW $55,510
SAVE $9,000!

2026 GMC Sierra 1500 Denali Ultimate
STK# 68973
- 3.0L Duramax Turbo Diesel
- 10 Speed Automatic
- 16-Way Power Front Seats
- HD Surround Vision
- Alpine Umber Leather



CALL FOR PRICE
SAVE BIG!
STK# 68973

2025 GMC HUMMER EV Pickup 3X
STK# 58263
- Super Cruise
- Bose Premium Surround Sound System
- Adaptive Suspension
- Ventilated Front Seats



WAS $127,560
NOW $112,560
SAVE $15,000!

ALABAMA'S LARGEST BUICK GMC DEALER

Bill Smith BUICK GMC WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

*Notates all rebates applied, must have 2005 or newer qualifying trade in. Prices are plus tax, title, & fee. Color may vary.

BILLSMITHBUICKGMC.COM • 1940 SECOND AVE NW • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-4472