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# Cullman County Museum welcomes Molly Bloom as new director

**Staff Reports**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism (CPRST) and the Cullman County Museum Board this week announced the appointment of Molly Bloom as the new director of the Cullman County Museum.

"Bloom joins the museum with a distinguished background in museum curation, collections care, educational programming and historical preservation, positioning the museum for a new chapter of scholarship, stewardship and meaningful community engagement," said a media release.

Bloom most recently served as curator and educator for the James K. Polk Presidential Home and Museum, where she led curatorial strategy, exhibit planning, collections » PAGE 2



CULLMAN PARKS, RECREATION & SPORTS TOURISM
*Molly Bloom*

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80 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1943-2023

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# Abby Maples crowned Miss Cullman Homeschool Fair Queen 2026




HEATHER LYNN
*Abby Maples was crowned Miss Cullman Homeschool Fair Queen 2026 on May 8, 2026.*

**Anabelle Howze**
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The first Miss Cullman Homeschool Fair Queen Pageant took place on May 8 at Harmony School, with Abby Maples, an 11th-grade homeschool student, taking the crown.

Taylor Folks, a Cullman native, Vinemont High School graduate and the current Mrs. Alabama American, directed the pageant. She explained that the program aims to help homeschool students build confidence, leadership skills and find encouragement through pageantry.

Folks, who also homeschools her children, said she hopes the pageant will have a positive impact on local families and become a valued tradition for homeschool students.

For her community service project, Maples talked about encouraging athletes to be positive role models on and off the field.

In the talent portion, she performed "Riptide" and played the ukulele.

Maples will compete in the 2026 Miss Cullman County Fair this fall alongside winners from local schools.

## Falkville man charged with trafficking fentanyl after I-65 traffic stop



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
*Kristopher Wayne Monfort* » PAGE 5

## Cullman council approves Christina Chambers Twilight 5K Run event » PAGE 7

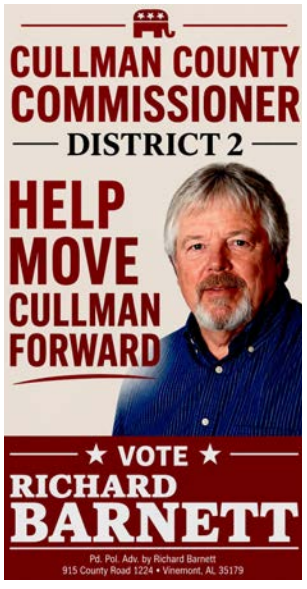
## Colony council talks clean-up efforts » PAGE 5

## Good Hope City Council awards $932K bid for Scott Drive sewer project » PAGE 7

**PET OF THE WEEK**
## Ms. Joanne



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
*Ms. Joanne* » PAGE 3






CRIME

# Arrests and incidents reported May 13

**Cullman Tribune staff**
Contributor

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

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

**CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

No arrests or incidents reported.

**CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**May 11**

• harassment; person; Pear Dr. NW

**May 12**

• domestic violence-3rd degree – harassing communications; person

• domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Cherokee Ave. SW

**ARRESTS**

**May 11**

**Lopez, Julio G.; 24**

• public intoxication

**HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

# Terry Turney convicted in 2020 CR 222 burglary, protection order case

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** – A Cullman County jury convicted Terry Lelan Turney, 60, of Arab of burglary and violation of a domestic violence protection order following a four-day trial, Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker announced Tuesday, May 12.

The convictions stem from Turney's role in a 2020 home invasion and fire on County Road 222, according to Crocker. The district attorney's office said another defendant in the case has been convicted of arson.

The same report listed Turney, then 54, as arrested on second-degree arson, third-degree burglary and violation of a domestic violence protection order. The conviction announced Tuesday was for burglary and violation of a domestic violence protection order.

Crocker said his office will seek an enhanced sentence under Alabama's habitual offender law.

"Terry Turney is a habitual offender with a history of using violence to target others," Crocker said. "With this being his third felony conviction, we will request a significant sentence under the habitual offender law."

Turney will remain in custody until his sentencing hearing, which is scheduled for June 17 at 9 a.m. before Circuit Court Judge Chad Floyd. Floyd presided over the trial.

Crocker credited Assistant District Attorneys Tina Burgett and Kerry Baswell, Trial Coordinator Amanda Gosa, the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Capt. Phillip Harris, multiple deputies and expert witnesses who assisted during the trial.

"I cannot say enough good things about my staff who assisted with this trial," Crocker said. "Joining me in trial were Assistant District Attorneys Tina Burgett and Kerry Baswell, as well as Trial Coordinator Amanda Gosa. We all worked a lot of long hours on this one. The Cullman County Sheriff's Office made a solid case for us, and we appreciate Captain Phillip Harris, multiple deputies and the expert witnesses who assisted us at trial."



CULLMAN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY CHAMP CROCKER
***Terry Lelan Turney***

Crocker also thanked the jury and the victim in the case.

"The jury in this case was extremely engaged and attentive to the evidence. Their service was valuable and much appreciated," he said. "I also want to give credit to the victim in this case, who stood strong through a tough trial."

# Bloom (from Front)

management, educational programming and community engagement initiatives.

Prior to that role, she worked in collections care at the Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial History and served as an archivist for the University of Glasgow in Scotland.

Bloom holds a Master of Science in Material Culture and Artifact Studies from the University of Glasgow and a Bachelor of Science in History with a minor in Art History from Athens State University.

"Her academic preparation and international museum experience bring a rare combination of scholarly depth and hands-on practice to the role," said the release.

"Molly's passion for history, preservation and community engagement made her stand out throughout the selection process," said Nathan Anderson, executive director of CPRST. "Her experience working with collections, educational programming and historic interpretation aligns perfectly with the vision we have for the future of the museum.

"We are excited to see her help elevate the Cullman County Museum into an even stronger cultural and educational destination for our community and visitors alike."

Ernest Hauk, chairman of the Cullman County Museum Board, added, "The Museum Board is thrilled to welcome Molly to Cullman. She brings a strong academic background, hands-on museum experience and a genuine passion for connecting people with history.

"We believe she will play a key role in preserving and sharing the stories that make Cullman County special for generations to come."

"I am incredibly honored and excited for the opportunity to join the Cullman County Museum team," said Bloom.

"The museum already has a strong foundation thanks to the dedication of its team, board members, volunteers and previous directors who have worked hard to preserve and share Cullman County's history.

"I'm excited to utilize my experience to help continue that mission while helping preserve the stories, artifacts and experiences that make this community so special.

"I look forward to working alongside the team and community to continue creating meaningful exhibits and educational opportunities that connect people to Cullman County's rich heritage."




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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD**
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• 256-739-3326
• spiritlifechurchcullman@gmail.com
• FB-Spirit Life Church Cullman
• Friday, May 15 – 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. Special guest speaker – Larry C. Hill Sr.
• Saturday, May 16 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
• Sunday, May 17 – 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**
• 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.

**May-June schedule:**
• Friday, May 15, 5 p.m. Adult Book Club
• Tuesday, May 19, 3:30 p.m. Teenage Bead Class making bracelets, making friends etc.
• Wednesday, May 20, 10 a.m. "Let it Shine" puppet show, live singing, dancing, entertainment loved by many
• Wednesday, May 20, 1-3 p.m. Crochet class hosted by Regina Johnson
• Saturday, May 23, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. BOOK SALE! during the Grilled Cheese Festival; books starting at 50 cents! YARD SALE of items no longer needed at library

**Start of summer program:**
• Wednesday, May 27, 10 a.m. Animal Tracks and Habits presented by Milli Keel with Cullman County Soil and Water Conservation District. What animals are wild and what animals are domesticated? Attend for answers and enjoy an animal track craft!
• Wednesday, May 27, 1-3 p.m. Crochet class
• Friday, May 29, 6 p.m. Poetry night (Announcement of Poetry contest winner!)
• Wednesday, June 3, 10 a.m. Live SNAKES, let's replace fear with fascination, experts present an engaging, hands-on show that brings the world of reptiles and exotic animals to the Shirley Burden Public Library
• Monday, June 1, 6 p.m. Culture Club meets
• Wednesday, June 3, 1-3 p.m. Crochet class
• Wednesday, June 10, 10 a.m. Birds' Beaks - Amazing Adaptations presented by Kerri Roberts Alabama 4-H
• Wednesday, June 10, 1-3 p.m. Crochet class

**Guy Hunt Library Summer Reading Program**
• Make plans to join us at Guy Hunt Library in Holly Pond on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. for the Summer Reading Program!
• June 2, Mr. Larry's Magic Show
• June 9, Cullman County Soil and Water Conservation District
• June16, Movie Day- "The Land Before Time"
• June 23, Jessie Douglas, Farm Bill Biologist II
• June 30, Snead's Farmhouse
• Drinks and snacks will be provided. For more information contact the Guy Hunt Library at 256-796-5226, or guyhuntlibrary@gmail.com.

**Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild Meeting**
Thursday, May 14, at 10 a.m. at St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 615 Main Ave. SW, Cullman. Everyone welcome.

**Holly Pond Lions Club Pancake Breakfast**
Saturday, May 16, from 6-9 a.m. at the Holly Pond Lions Club Building. Enjoy pancakes, bacon, sausage and coffee, eat in or take out, for a donation. The proceeds will benefit the Holly Pond Cemetery project fund. Come join us! Thank you in advance for your support.

**Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting**
Thursday, May 21, at 6 p.m. at Saint Andrew's, 615 Main Ave. SW, Cullman. Quilters of all experience levels are welcome.

# Ms. Joanne (from Front)

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The week's Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week Ms. Joanne is not asking for much. The approximately 5-year-old terrier mix is a low-energy girl with a gentle spirit, a grateful heart and the kind of quiet presence that settles into a room without demanding anything from it.

Ms. Joanne seems a little bewildered by shelter life. Evidently, her life before now was not always easy, but she has not let that hard road take away her softness. Her attitude remains grateful and undemanding, and she cherishes the time spent with her.

She especially enjoys being groomed, leaning into the care and attention as if she understands that kindness is something worth holding onto. The sparkles of gray around her eyes only add to her beauty, carrying the look of a dog with a story still waiting to be shared with someone special.

Ms. Joanne's personality is deep, gentle and irresistible. She is the quintessential companion or therapy dog, perfect for someone looking for a loyal friend with a calm presence and a loving heart.

Her adoption fee is $130 and includes vaccines, spay, microchip, wormer, general exam at the shelter and general wellness.

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

If Ms. Joanne has already been adopted by the time you inquire, there are plenty of other wonderful friends at the shelter still waiting for their forever homes.




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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:**
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FACEBOOK/CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

***Left to right are Cullman City Primary School Assistant Principal Tyler Skinner Assistant Principal (Thomas Jefferson), Cullman Police Department Community Relations Officer Adam Clark, CCPS School Resource Officer Daniel Palisay, Cullman Assistant Police Chief Brandon Patterson and CCPS School Resource Officer Bill Fisher (Ben Franklin).***

# CPD celebrates America 250 at Cullman City Primary School

**Lauren Estes**
lauren@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman City Primary School celebrated America's upcoming 250th birthday during the school's Semiquincentennial celebration on Monday, May 11.

Police Chief Joey Duncan said the event gave students a fun and educational opportunity to learn about the nation's history.

"Students and faculty enjoyed patriotic activities and historical presentations throughout the day," Duncan said. "One of the highlights was School Resource Officer Bill Fisher, who dressed as Benjamin Franklin and entertained students while teaching them about American history."

Duncan said the Cullman Police Department was honored to participate in the event alongside the students and staff of Cullman Primary School.

"It is always an honor for the Cullman Police Department to be involved in events that educate and inspire our young people," Duncan said. "Seeing students excited about learning our nation's history while building positive relationships with officers in the community makes this event especially meaningful as we approach America's 250th anniversary."

Fisher was asked by Principal Dr. Elizabeth Shaddix to play the role of Ben Franklin.

"This was for our Semiquincentennial celebration of America – 250 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence," Fisher said.

"It was a fun role in signing the Declaration of Independence. The CCPS students are our future, and the Declaration of Independence applies to them."







## LEGALS

### PRIMARY ELECTION RULES FOR CROSS-OVER VOTING

Cullman County's Chief Election Official is Judge of Probate, Tammy Brown, as is each Judge of Probate for his and her respective county. She has a Probate Office Election Department that consists of two full-time employees, Benson Clark and Susan Rollo. Probate Office Chief Clerk, Kathy Swann, also assists and works in elections. She also wants to give a shout out to her additional employees that help with elections after the precincts close on election day. There is a lot of work that is put in to preparing for elections. Judge Brown commends her employees for their dedication and work.

Judge Brown ask voters that when voting at your precinct on election day to say "Thank You" to election workers at each precinct. Election Workers are a contributing factor and one reason that Cullman County has fair and honest elections.

One rule that often raises questions among voters is the Cross-Over Voting Rule which governs participation in Primary and Primary Run-Off Elections. This rule outlines how voters may not switch between political parties. This is designed to preserve the integrity of each political party's nomination process. When a voter participates in a Primary Election, they are selecting the candidates who will represent that specific party in the General Election. Because of this, the law restricts voters from switching parties in the Run-Off Election.

**HOW THE CROSS-OVER RULES WORKS:**

Voter casts a ballot in a party's primary election, they are committed to that same party in the event of a Run-Off Election.

Example: Voter who participates in a Democratic Primary Election must also vote in the Democratic Run-Off Election when one occurs. The voter is not permitted to "Cross-Over" and vote in the Republican Run-Off Election.

This same rule applies for voters who participate in the Republican Primary Election.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ON THE 2026 PRIMARY BALLOT:**

Voters who do not participate in the Democratic or Republican Primary Election because the voter chose not to vote in a parties' primary may choose to vote a constitutional amendment ballot only. These Voters may choose either party's ballot when voting in the Run-Off Election.

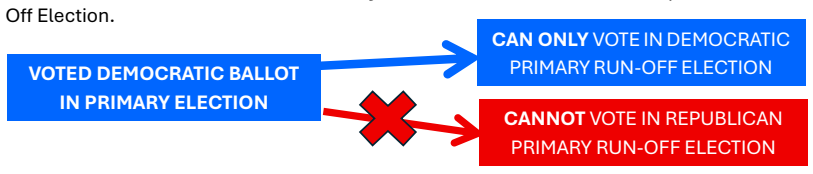
**ELECTION CYCLE RE-SET:**

Cross-Over Voting Rule resets each election cycle. The rule only applies to Primary and Primary Run-Off Elections. General Elections are not affected by cross-over voting where all eligible voters may participate regardless of whether voting in the Democratic or Republican Primary Election.

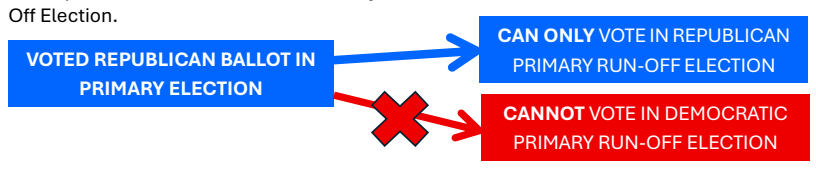
**WHY PRIMARY ELECTIONS MATTER:**

Voters that plan to vote in a Parties' Primary Election should understand Cross-Over Voting to avoid any confusion in the Primary and the Primary Run-Off Elections. In many county, state and federal elections the Primary Elections decides the Parties' Candidate for the General Election.

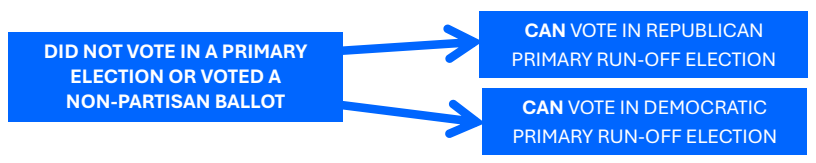
**Explanation:** Voter chooses to vote in Democratic Primary Election, you **may only** vote in the Democratic Run-Off Election. You **may not** cross over and vote in the Republican Run-Off Election.




**Explanation:** Voter chooses to vote in Republican Primary Election, you **may only** vote in the Republican Run-Off Election. You **may not** cross over and vote in the Democratic Run-Off Election.




**Explanation:** Voter chose not to vote in a Primary Election, voter may choose either a Democratic or Republican ballot in a Run-Off Election.




CROSS-OVER RULE STARTS OVER WITH EACH ELECTION CYCLE AND ONLY APPLIES TO PRIMARY AND PRIMARY RUN-OFF ELECTIONS

CROSS-OVER VOTING DOES NOT APPLY TO GENERAL ELECTIONS

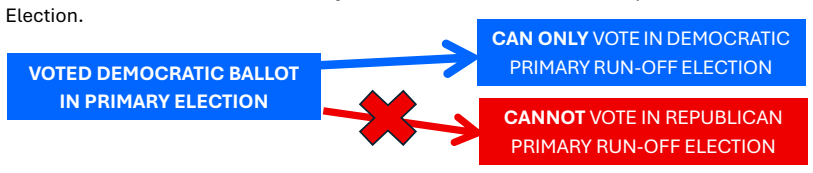
**TAMMY BROWN**
**JUDGE OF PROBATE**
**CULLMAN COUNTY**

## Cross Over Voting Rules

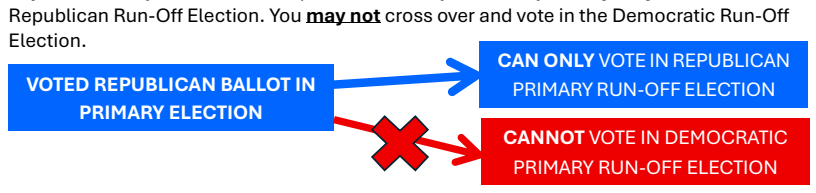
Effective August 1, 2017

According to **Act #2017-340, Section 2 (a)**, if an elector votes in a primary election, He or she may vote in a subsequent primary runoff election only if he or she voted in the primary election of the same political party for which the runoff election is being held. For those people who did not vote in a Primary Election, they may choose either party's ballot in a Primary Run-Off Election.

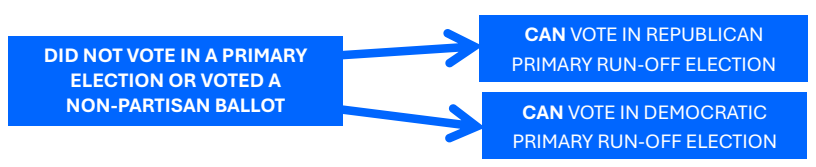
**Explanation:** If you vote in the Democratic Primary Election, you **may only** vote in the Democratic Run-Off Election. You **may not** cross over and vote in the Republican Run-Off Election.




**Explanation:** If you vote in the Republican Primary Election, you **may only** vote in the Republican Run-Off Election. You **may not** cross over and vote in the Democratic Run-Off Election.




**Explanation:** If you did not vote in a Primary Election, you may choose either a Democratic or Republican ballot in a Run-Off Election.




**THE CROSS-OVER RULE STARTS OVER WITH EACH ELECTION CYCLE AND ONLY APPLIES TO PRIMARY AND PRIMARY RUN-OFF ELECTIONS.**
**IT DOES NOT APPLY TO A GENERAL ELECTION.**

# Fentanyl (from Front)

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — A Falkville man was arrested Tuesday, May 12, after Cullman County sheriff's deputies allegedly found fentanyl, Suboxone strips and drug paraphernalia during a traffic stop on Interstate 65.

According to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, deputies initiated a traffic stop May 12 near the 299 exit after observing a traffic violation.

The driver was identified as John Kristopher Wayne Monfort.

According to the sheriff's office, deputies established probable cause to search the vehicle.

The search allegedly led to the seizure of fentanyl, Suboxone strips and drug paraphernalia.

Monfort was arrested and charged with trafficking fentanyl, unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

No additional information was immediately released by the sheriff's office.

# Colony (from Front)

**Chasady Woods**
chasady@cullmantribune.com

**COLONY, Ala.** — The Colony Town Council at its Tuesday, May 12, meeting discussed town clean-up efforts and the purchase of a new hitch trimmer mower attachment.

Councilwoman Mary Parker reported that she and Mayor Jasmine Cole had discussed the purchase of a 3-point hitch trimmer mower attachment for a tractor to help clear overgrowth. They council voted to approve the purchase, with a budget of $2,000.

The council also approved the purchase of a load of gravel. The exact amount was not disclosed, but the gravel will be used on Byars Road.

In other business, Cole reported that two town vehicles have issues such as major oil leaks, overheating and starting delays.

The council approved the sale of the two vehicles and the purchase of one vehicle. Members said the newer vehicle will be used for council trips such as their upcoming course training in June.

Councilwoman Mallonee Hall, in discussion with Cole, said a town cleanup has been set for Saturday, June 13. Specifics will be provided before the next town council meeting.

Residents are urged to participate in the event. At a recent cleanup of the town's cemetery, the council said, plenty of people showed up, though they said the work could have been completed much faster if younger residents had participated more.

The cleanup will go from 8 a.m.-noon, but, Cole stated, "It won't take that long."

The next Colony Town Council meeting will take place Tuesday, June 9, at 6 p.m. at Colony Town Hall, located at 65 Byars Road.

For additional information, please contact the town at 256-287-1192.






THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MAY 14, 2026

PREP SOFTBALL REGIONALS

# Good Hope collect wins over Curry, Central-Florence to move on to next round

**Sammy Confer**
sammy@cullmantribune.com

**FLORENCE, Ala.** — The 4A North Regionals at Florence got underway on Monday morning, and the Good Hope Lady Raiders took on the Curry Lady Yellow Jackets in the first round. It was close from beginning to end, but Good Hope put up a run in the first, third, and fourth inning. That was more than enough run support for starter Molly Benefield, as she pitched the entire game, giving up two earned runs and struck out six in the Lady Raiders' 3-2 win over Curry. Their next opponent was Central-Florence, a team that rolled past Cordova to start out their postseason. Just like in the first game, though, it was a pitcher's duel, and Benefield pitched a complete game seven-hit shutout, striking out seven, as RBIs from Lizzy Steed and Kynzlee Garmon helped them get past the Lady Wildcats, 2-0, to move on to the next round.

**Good Hope 3 – Curry 2**
**(Game One)**

Good Hope got things started in their opening at-bats. Steed led off the game with a walk then moved up to second on a sacrifice bunt by Kylee Smith. Two pitches later, Campbell Koch reached on an error, and that allowed Steed to score to give the Lady Raiders the early lead.

Curry responded in their half. Shileigh Williams drew a one-out walk and ended up stealing second on the first pitch. Ralee Dunagan's RBI single to left field tied it up at one.

After a scoreless second inning, Good Hope broke the tie in the top of the third. Steed led things off for the Lady Raiders with a single, then another sacrifice bunt by Smith moved Steed over to second.

Two pitches later, Koch hit an RBI double to center field to put Good Hope up, 2-1.

The Lady Raiders added to their lead in the fourth. Kynzlee Garmon led off the inning with a single on the first pitch, then one out later, Anna Agee drew a walk to put runners at first and second.

After starter Skiely Perry struck out Bella White, Steed drew a walk to load the bases with two outs. Garmon scored on a passed ball to make it 3-1.

The Lady Yellow Jackets cooked up a two-out rally against Benefield in the bottom of the fifth. Ansley Brown hit a single to center field.

After she stole second, Williams hit an RBI triple to right field to bring home Brown, but Maddie Speegle threw it to Smith, who then proceeded to throw it to Steed to nail Williams at the plate to keep it at a one-run game.

That ended up being a crucial play in the game, as Benefield quickly went into shut down mode after that, allowing just a single hit in the final two innings, and finished off the 3-2 win over Curry by striking out Emma Sides.

Koch finished with a hit and an RBI for Good Hope, while Steed, Garmon, and Carlee Trammell each collected a hit in the game.



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Good Hope's Kylee Smith*

**Good Hope 2 – Central-Florence 0**
**(Game Two)**

Starters Devyn Green and Molly Benefield pitched a scoreless first inning, and the only runs of the game would come in the top of the second. Benefield hit a one-out double, then Ella Agee, Benefield's pinch-runner, moved up to third on a passed ball. On the next pitch, Garmon hit an RBI single to left field to give the Lady Raiders the early lead. Later that inning, Anna Agee hit a double to center field to put runners at second and third with two outs, then a walk by White loaded the bases.

Steed's RBI single to left field drove in Garmon to put Good Hope up, 2-0.

Izzy Miller led off the bottom of the second inning with a triple, but Benefield collected three straight outs to get out of the inning unscathed.

The Lady Wildcats put a couple of runners on base with two outs in the bottom of the third and in the bottom of the sixth, but some big pitches down the stretch by Benefield kept them out of the run column.

Paislee Ticer hit a two-out double in Central-Florence's final at-bats. Benefield, though, got Abigail Brooks to pop out on the first pitch to help seal the Lady Raiders' 2-0 shutout win over the Lady Wildcats.

Steed and Garmon each finished with a pair of hits and an RBI in the win for Good Hope (17-16).

The Lady Raiders will face off against a familiar area foe, the West Morgan Lady Rebels, on Tuesday afternoon at 12:15 p.m. in the winner's bracket semifinals.

PREP SOFTBALL REGIONALS

# Meek stays alive with blowout win, Addison and Good Hope eliminated

**Lucas Gray**
lucas@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — On Tuesday morning, Good Hope looked to continue their run at regionals in Florence, and Meek and Addison took the field at Sand Mountain Park in Albertville for the first time. Two of the teams, Addison and Good Hope, saw their seasons end, but Meek stayed alive with their backs against the wall. All results as well as Meek's matchup for tomorrow are below.

**MEEK**
**Sand Mountain**
**Park, Albertville**

**Game One, Winner's Bracket – Ragland 11, Meek 6:** Starting Tiger pitcher Sadi Farley looked the part of a star vs. the Devils on Tuesday morning, throwing seven complete innings with 140 pitches-93 strikes, struck out 12 batters and was only tagged with five earned runs. However, Ragland was able to find more contact than most teams have this season, racking up 13 hits to score 11 runs.

Where Meek really got into trouble was with defensive errors, ending the game with three of them that allowed a total of six runs to cross. The Devils' Anna Burnham (5-5, 3 RBI) and Alyssa Broome (3-5, 3 RBI) were the main drivers of their offensive surge.

**Game Two, Elimination Bracket – Meek 11, Spring Garden 1:** With elimination on the line, Farley stepped to the mound again and threw a completely different game. She struck out six panthers and allowed just one hit in a five-inning run rule win.

Meek's offense flipped the script in their second game of the day, too. In the bottom of the fourth with bases loaded and a a 4-1 lead, Molli Sandlin (3-4, 4 RBI) not only cleared the bases with a hard liner to center, but made it all the way home for an inside-the-park grand slam to blow the game open.

Hoping to continue to stave off elimination, Meek will take on Appalachian tomorrow at 12:15 p.m.

**ADDISON**
**Sand Mountain**
**Park, Albertville**

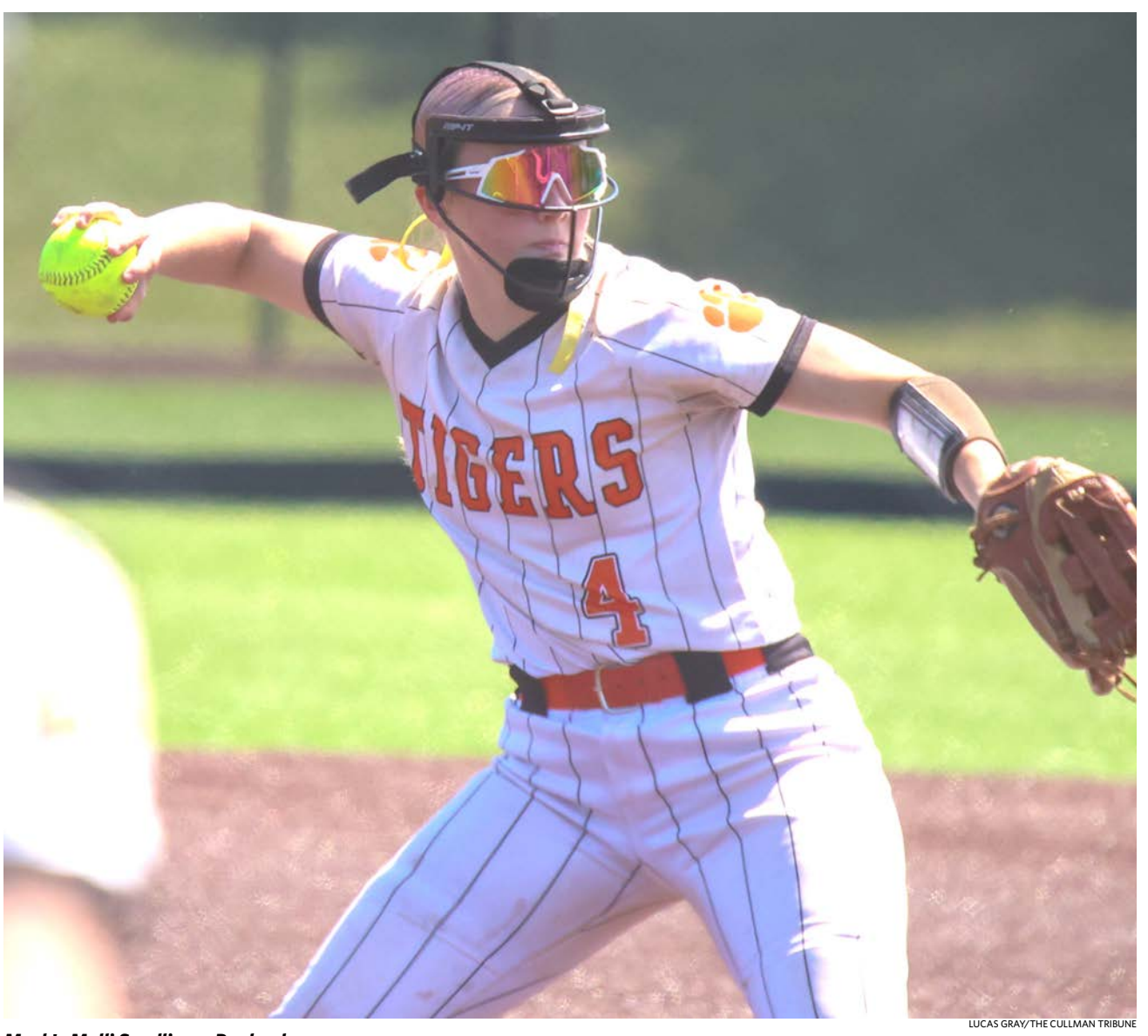
**Game One, Winner's Bracket – Appalachian 10, Addison 1:** In a rough all-around game, Addison only managed to generate three hits off Eagles' pitcher Tori Atkinson, who threw a complete seven-inning, 72 pitch game vs. the Bulldogs.

On defense, things weren't much better, with four defensive errors further hurting Bulldog starting pitcher Madisyn Carter, who was tagged with eight earned runs in her six inning performance.

**Game Two, Elimination Bracket – Jacksonville Christian 11, Addison 1:** With the season on the line, Addison was unable to stay alive vs. Jacksonville Christian. Strong performances from Thunder batters Audrina Williams (3-4, 3 RBI) and Sophie Williams (3-4, 1 RBI) jumpstarted the attack on Carter, who took the mound again in game two.

Addison did get a better game at the plate, however, with Maddie Kate Speegle going 2-3 to lead the team.

Addison's 2026 season ended at 1-23.




LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Meek's Molli Sandlin vs. Ragland*

**GOOD HOPE**
**Coffee O'Neal**
**Park, Florence**

**Semifinal, Winner's Bracket – West Morgan 5, Good Hope 2:** Taking on a familiar foe in the winner's bracket semifinals after two wins yesterday, the Lady Raiders met West Morgan, who they had lost to twice in their area tournament, including the championship game.

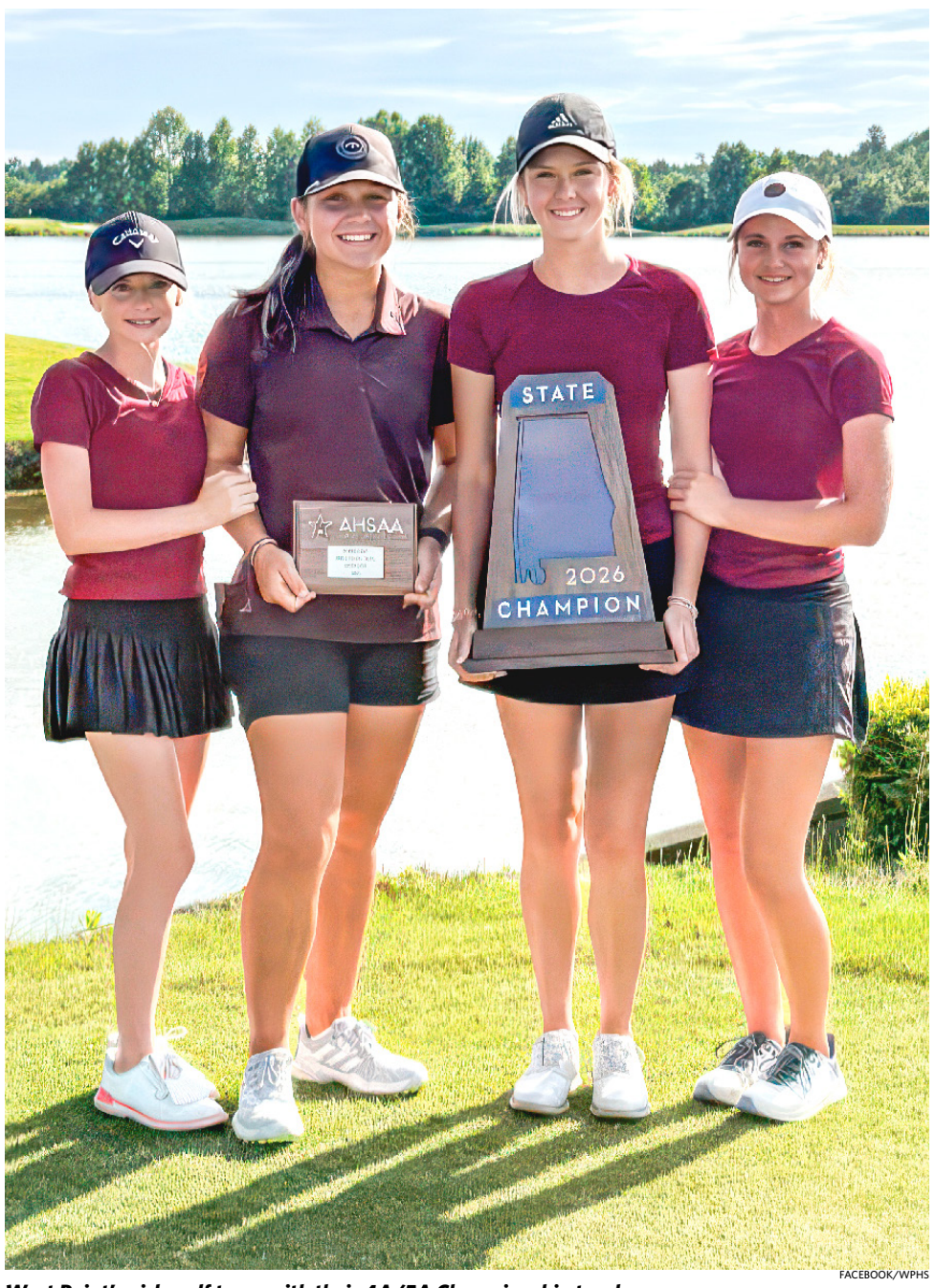
Molly Benefield started on the mound for Good Hope, throwing seven innings while only allowing four earned runs and throwing two strikeouts. Despite giving up 12 hits, four of which were extra-base hits, the Raiders' offense failed to give Benefield run support.

The Rebels' starting pitcher, Chasity Rikard, only gave up five hits on the day and was credited with zero earned runs while striking out four batters.

**Semifinal, Elimination Bracket – Hamilton 3, Good Hope 1:** Benefield started again on the brink of elimination and, again, threw a game the Raiders would usually find a way to win. Over seven innings, she struck out three batters, allowed zero earned runs and gave up seven hits.

Molly Sandlin, Hamilton's starter, had a similar stat line. Seven innings, seven hits, just one earned run and one strikeout. Like many games this season, Good Hope engaged in a defensive battle, but was unable to get the bats going on day two of the Class 4A, North Region tournament.

Good Hope's season ended at 17-18.




FACEBOOK/WPHS

*West Point's girls golf team with their 4A/5A Championship trophy*

PREP GOLF

# West Point's girls earn 4A/5A State Championship at Silver Lakes

**Lucas Gray**
lucas@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — West Point High's girls' golf team won the 4A/5A AHSAA State Championship yesterday at the Silver Lakes course in Calhoun County.

The team shot +50, a six stroke advantage over the next highest, and were led by Brooklyn Sutter, who finished the tournament as the low medalist, shooting +2.



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Republican candidate for Cullman County sheriff Chad Whaley addresses the Good Hope City Council on Monday, May 11, 2026.*

# Good Hope (from Front)

**Anabelle Howze**
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

**GOOD HOPE, Ala.** — The Good Hope City Council, at its meeting on Monday night, approved multiple rezoning ordinances and awarded a bid for the Scott Drive sewer project.

The Scott Drive sewer project received 12 bids. Council members unanimously approved awarding the project to C.D. Roberts Contracting with a bid of approximately $932,000.

The project will add about 6,000 linear feet of new sewer lines along Scott Drive and connect residents currently using septic tanks to the city's sewer system. Plans also include the construction of a new pump station. Officials said construction is expected to begin in mid-June and take about six months to complete. The project is funded through an Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) grant.

The council also approved Ordinance No. 005-2026 rezoning property at 193 Speegle Road to R-2 residential for a proposed duplex development and Ordinance No. 015-2026 rezoning property at 191 Scott Drive from general business to R-2 residential following a recommendation from the Good Hope Planning Commission.

During council reports, officials discussed ongoing utility and drainage work, along with future park improvements including pavilions, playground shade structures and walking trails.

Republican candidate for Cullman County sheriff Chad Whaley also briefly addressed the council.

He thanked members for the opportunity to speak and expressed his excitement about the upcoming Primary Election, which will take place Tuesday, May 19, 2026.

The Good Hope City Council will meet next on Tuesday, May 26, at 6:30 p.m. at Good Hope City Hall.

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DO IT FOR YOURSELF
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Breast & Cervical EARLY DETECTION Program of Alabama



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*Cullman County Tourism Bureau Executive Director Harmony Heard presents Cullman City Council members "Visit Cullman Restaurant Week" aprons on Monday, May 11, 2026.*

# Cullman (from Front)

**Chasady Woods**
chasady@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The Cullman City Council at its Monday, May 11, meeting approved several special event requests, including the Christina Chambers Twilight 5K Run, honoring the late Christina Chambers.

As The Tribune reported in March, the event 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.

Street closures for the Aug. 7 event will begin at 4 p.m., with race check-in beginning at 5. There will be live music from 8:30 p.m.-midnight, with vendors on-site.

"This is going to be a way to honor and celebrate Christina Chambers and her love for Cullman and the running community," stated Thomas Moss, who presented the event request.

He said 116 people are already signed up and 500 or more are expected.

"Some of the proceeds will be benefiting her son (Constantine) and Willow Path," Moss said.

Willow Path is a local nonprofit that supports survivors of domestic violence.

Get more information about the event at www.christinachambers5k.com.

**Other approved special event requests included:**

• Field Day for St. Paul's Lutheran School, requested by Rev. John Bussman, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. May 18. The request includes the closure of Fifth Street Southeast between Fourth Avenue Southeast and Third Avenue Southeast.

• Summer Reading Kickoff Block Party for the Cullman County Public Library, requested by Amber Thornton, on June 8 at the library from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

• Community Heroes Day at the Cullman County Public Library for Oct. 24, 2026, from 10 a.m.-noon. The event was described as a library program featuring community helpers and vehicles such as a fire truck, power truck and ambulance for children to see.

• Cullman County Relay For Life, requested by Emily Abney of the American Cancer Society, from 4-10 p.m. May 30 at Depot Park and Festhalle. The request lists Arnold Street between First Avenue Northeast and Second Avenue Northeast for closure, along with use of the Cullman County Museum parking lot.

In committee reports, Councilman Chuck Shikle reported that Cullman Fire Rescue completed its HazMat Technician training.

Shikle also reported that the Cullman Police Department gave out 77 tickets and 371 warnings, and had 72 misdemeanor arrests and 27 felony arrests during the month of April 2026.

Councilman David Moss invited Cullman County Tourism Bureau Executive Director Harmony Heard to speak. She talked about the launch of Visit Cullman's monthly newsletter and upcoming Cullman Restaurant Week, which will take place Sept. 10-21.

Moss also called on Nathan Anderson, executive director of Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism, who told the audience that the Alabama Strawberry Festival saw individuals from 35 different states.

Councilman Jason Willoughby reported that a Diesel Technician job with the City of Cullman Garage Department is open.

This application will close on May 21, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. See it online at www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cullmanal.

Willoughby said the garage has serviced 108 vehicles since April 11, 2026.

Councilman Paul Schaffer welcomed new Utilities Plant Manager Clancy Hyde.

In new business, the council approved Resolution No. 2026-91, amending the city's position control, job descriptions and fiscal year 2026 budget.

The resolution approves six job descriptions for Communications/Dispatch, four job descriptions for Human Resources, one new Water Department administrative clerk position and the reclassification of a Wastewater Treatment Plant Grade 2 Operator position to Lab Technician.

The next Cullman City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, at 7 p.m. in the Cullman City Hall auditorium.

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JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!
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Free Phone Consultation
Call 1-256-850-0527
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# LEGALS

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: The Estate of *
JAMES MICHAEL OZIER, * CASE NO.: PC2026-173
Deceased. *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to John K. Ozier, as Personal Representative of the Estate of JAMES MICHAEL OZIER, deceased, on the 12th day of May, 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.

John K. Ozier
Personal Representative

Seth B. Thompson
Attorney for the Petitioner
201 Second Avenue Southwest
Cullman, AL 35055

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 12th day of May, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

EST. 1873

# CULLMAN

ALABAMA

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

City of Cullman
Zoning Board of Adjustments

On Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Zoning Board of Adjustments, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Brock Trace Subdivision - County Road 1464 & County Road 1466 – minimum rear lot setbacks

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

Case# PC2026-062
PB WIL Book 137 Page 779
Recorded in Above Book and Page
04/21/2026 10:40AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
WJC

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2026-062

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF AMANDA PIRKLE THOMPSON, DECEASED.

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Amanda Leshae Calahan on the 20th day of April, 2026, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Amanda Leshae Calahan
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

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

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgages executed by **ELLARD CALVERT AND SPOUSE, MARY CALVERT** to Traditions Bank, as follows: Mortgage securing the property described below, said Mortgage dated April 27, 2007, and recorded on May 22, 2007, in Mortgage Book 1521 Page 823 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, as modified by that Modification of Mortgage dated February 12, 2011, and recorded on March 7, 2011, in Mortgage Book 1647 Page 305, the undersigned Traditions Bank, as mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgages, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse in Cullman, Alabama, on the **28th day of May, 2026,** between the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Commence at the Northwest Corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 11, Range 5 West and go 105 yards East to the point of beginning for land herein conveyed; Thence continue East 105 yards to a point; thence go South 105 yards to a point; thence go West 105 yards to a point; thence go North 105 yards back to the point of beginning for the land herein conveyed, said parcel of land containing 1½ Acres, more or less.

Property Address: 19884 County Road 222, Crane Hill, AL 35053

This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure.

PUBLICATION DATES: May 7, May 14 and May 21, 2026
NEWSPAPER: The Cullman Tribune

TRADITIONS BANK
Mortgagee
Steven C. Smith
SMITH & SMITH ATTORNEYS, LLC
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
Telephone: (256) 734-4721
steve@smithandsmithllp.com

**Notice of Public Meeting**

The Alcohol Review Committee of the City of Cullman will hold a public hearing on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in the administrative conference room at City Hall located at 204 Second Avenue NE. The Committee will receive public comments for and against the alcohol license applicants listed: Cullman Gas USA, Inc, dba Mama's Country Cooking, 1577 County Road 715, Hanceville, AL 35077 – Beer and Wine Off Premises; Cullman Gas USA, Inc, dba Discount Package Store No. 2, 1577 County Road 715, Hanceville, AL 35077 – Package Store (Retail Liquor) Off Premises; Samu2017, Inc, dba Tiger Mart Package, 6390 Alabama Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35057 – Package Store (Retail Liquor) Off Premises.

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * CASE NO. PC2026-181
BEVERLY JOAN MOSS, Deceased *

Case# PC2026-181
PB WIL Book 138 Page 126
Recorded in Above Book and Page
05/05/2026 5:08PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
WJC

**NOTICE TO CREDITOR**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to H. Chris Moss, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Beverly Joan Moss, deceased, on the 5th day of May, 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.

H. CHRIS MOSS
Personal Representative

Nancy F. McClellan
BLAND, HARRIS & McCLELLAN, P.C.
Attorneys for Estate
401 Second Avenue, SW, Suite 103
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2026-174

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MARGARET ELIZABETH CLOS, DECEASED.

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

WJC

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to John Francis Clos on the 5th day of May, 2026, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

John Francis Clos
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by James Israel, an unmarried person, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for The Federal Savings Bank, its successors and assigns dated March 31, 2022; said mortgage being recorded on April 5, 2022 in Deed Book 2008, Page 749 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to U.S. Bank National Association by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2121, Page 809 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, U.S. Bank National Association, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on March 12, 2026 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot 2, according to the Survey of Cotton Row, as recorded in Map Book B, Page 63A in the Probate Office of Cullman County, Alabama.

Said property is commonly known as **123 County Road 1407, Cullman, AL 35058**.

Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description will control.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. Bidders must perform their own due diligence. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including nonjudicial foreclosures) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. As part of this Rule, purchasers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and the source of funds used in the reportable transaction, if applicable.* The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply

May 5, 2026

with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

* The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any.

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 25-07966AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
01/29/2026,02/05/2026,02/12/2026,04/09/2026,05/14/2026

AMENDMENT TO NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The sale date under the above mentioned Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale has been postponed until April 23, 2026, and public notice thereof having been given, the above notice is hereby republished with this amendment.

Cullman Tribune, April 9, 2026

AMENDMENT TO NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The sale date under the above mentioned Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale has been postponed until June 4, 2026, and public notice thereof having been given, the above notice is hereby republished with this amendment.

Cullman Tribune, May 14, 2026

25-07966AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AP2026-162 PC

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF B.M.C., a minor child (DOB 12/23/2014)

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF MINOR**

Notice to: JUSTIN LEE CLEGHORN, FATHER OF A CHILD BORN TO KALIKA BETH OWENS KNOWN AS B.M.C. (DOB 12/23/2014)

Please take notice that a Petition for Name Change of a Minor was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Kalika Beth Owens, Petitioner. If you should contest this name change, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication herein with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 20th day of April, 2026.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
DONNA LYNN FRULLATE-GREEN, CASE NO.: PC 2026-183
Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to SETH B. THOMPSON as Administrator of the Estate of DONNA LYNN FRULLATE-GREEN, deceased, on the 11th day of May, 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.

Seth B. Thompson
Administrator

Seth B. Thompson
The Thompson Law Firm, LLC
201 Second Avenue, Southeast
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
BENJAMIN BURTON SLAYTON, * CASE NO.: PC 2026-152
Deceased. *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to TAMMY FRANKS, as Personal Representative of the Estate of BENJAMIN BURTON SLAYTON, deceased, on the 5th day of May, 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.

Tammy Franks
Personal Representative

Shelbie G. Hankey
Hankey Law Firm
Attorney for the Estate
409 2nd Avenue SW
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

INVITATION TO BID

Project: Frank Research & Technology Park
Contract No. 1 – Site Preparation
(herein referred to as the 'Project').

Owner: The City of Cullman, Alabama
204 2nd Avenue NE (Physical Address)
Cullman, AL 35055
P.O. Box 278 (Mailing Address)
Cullman, AL 35056-0278

Engineer: St. John & Associates, Inc.
508 First Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Date: May 14, 2026

Sealed Bids for the completion of the Project located in Cullman, Alabama will be received at the location of the bid opening until 2:00 PM local time on Thursday, June 11, 2026. Any Bids received after the specified time will not be considered. Bids will then be publicly opened at the Cullman City Hall Auditorium, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055.

The Project generally consists of erosion and sediment control, residential structure demolition, coordination of overhead power relocation, site clearing and establishment of permanent vegetation at the proposed industrial site. The Project is located on property at 485 Alabama Highway 69 North. The Owner requires the Project to be substantially complete in 120 calendar days from the date that the Contract Times commence to run as indicated on the Notice to Proceed.

A prebid conference will be held at 10:00 AM local time on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at the Cullman City Hall Auditorium, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055. Representatives of the Owner and Engineer will be present to discuss the Project.

In order to Bid on the Project, the Bidder shall possess a valid General Contractor's license for work in the State of Alabama. The Contractor's license number shall be clearly indicated on the outside of sealed Bid envelopes. Bidder and its Subcontractors shall comply with all applicable licensing requirements of the Code of Alabama, federal and local Laws or Regulations.

A cashier's check or bid bond payable to the Owner in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the amount of the bid must accompany the bidder's proposal. The Successful Bidder will be required to furnish the additional bond(s) and evidence of insurance as prescribed in the Bidding Documents. Bidders are directed to the Instructions to Bidders - Document 00 21 15 and the other Bidding Documents.

Bidding Documents may be examined at the office of the Engineer; hard-copy documents may be obtained upon nonrefundable payment of $100.00 for each set of documents, including one set of drawings, legal requirements and specifications. Digital copies of the bid documents are also available at www.SJAOnline.com for a fee of $50.00. These documents may be downloaded by selecting this project from the 'Planroom' link. For assistance and free registration, contact QuestCDN at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com.

Bid shall be submitted on the Bid Form provided. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Your Bid will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days from the date of the opening of Bids. The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids and to waive any informality in the bidding.

By: The City of Cullman, Alabama
Mr. Woody Jacobs, Mayor

# Kids Fish-O-Rama, Senior Fishing Day return May 22-23

**Gauge Day**
gauge@cullmantribune.com

**HANCEVILLE, Ala.** — Hanceville Parks & Recreation will host its annual Kids Fish-O-Rama on Saturday, May 23, at Veterans Memorial Park, with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. Fishing will take place from 8-11. The event is open to children ages 14 and younger. Registration is free.

"We are incredibly excited for this year's Fish-O-Rama events," said Hanceville Parks & Recreation Director David Wasilewski. "This is one of our favorite community traditions, and we've been hard at work getting everything ready at Veterans Memorial Park. Seeing the community come together at the pond is what makes this event so special."

Participants will not only get to enjoy a morning of fishing, but lunch will also be provided.

Trophies will be awarded throughout the divisions, as well as door prizes, during the event.

Assistant Director Garrett Gilliland said park organizers are looking forward to another fun weekend in Hanceville with the Fish-O-Rama.

"It's all about making memories and, hopefully, catching 'the big one,'" Gilliland said. "We have some fantastic door prizes and trophies lined up and we can't wait to see the young anglers showing off their skills."

In addition to the children's event on Saturday, Hanceville Parks & Recreation, alongside the Cullman County Commission on Aging, will host Senior Fishing Day for participants ages 55 and older on Friday, May 22. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m., with fishing starting at 8.

Final weigh-ins will take place at 11. Multiple trophies will be awarded, and lunch will be provided for participants.

For more information, contact David Wasilewski at 256-735-6549 or parkdirector@cityofhanceville.net.

Veterans Memorial Park is located at 503 Park Street, Hanceville, AL 35077.

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# Obituary Announcements: May 12-13

**Joel Mansfield Buttram III, 38**
Joel Mansfield Buttram III, age of 38, passed away unexpectedly on May 8, 2026, leaving behind a family who loved him deeply and will miss him dearly. Joel was preceded in death by his mother, Windy Elmore, whose love and memory remained close to his heart throughout his life. He is survived by his beloved daughters, Lexi Buttram and Brooklyn Buttram, who were the greatest joy and pride of his life. He is also survived by his father, Joel Mansfield Buttram, Jr. (Joey); his sisters, Cherie Nelson (Steven) and Jessica Myrick (Sean); his nieces, Katie, Alli, Hadley, and Sara; his nephew, Bradley; and a host of extended family and close friends, all of whom will forever cherish the memories they shared with him. Joel lived life to the fullest and never turned down a good adventure. He found joy in the outdoors and loved spending time fishing, hunting, and especially arrowhead hunting—one of his greatest passions. Whether exploring the woods or sharing stories with family and friends, Joel embraced life with enthusiasm and a spirit that was uniquely his own. He will be remembered for his adventurous heart, his love for his family, and the impact he made on everyone fortunate enough to know him. Though his time here was far too short, his memory will live on through his daughters, his family, and all who loved him. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered. No services are planned at this time.

**Bertha Mae Waldrep, 96**
Bertha Mae Waldrep, 96, of Crane Hill, Alabama, passed away on May 10, 2026. Born Feb. 20, 1930, in Etowah, Alabama, Bertha Mae's life reflected quiet strength, steady devotion, and a deep appreciation for home and family—gifts that will be remembered with gratitude and respect. Bertha Mae was preceded in death by her husband, Lawton R Waldrep; her son, Horace Waldrep; her son-in-law, Douglas Hunt; her parents, Albert Henry and Virdie Bryant Jackson; her brothers, Almus Jackson, AB Jackson and Talmus Jackson; and her sister, Bertie Lou Morton. A special thank you to Joe and Delia Mauldin and there sons for loving and raising Bertha from three years of age. She is survived by her daughter, Carolyn Hunt; her sons, Michael Waldrep(Jayne) & Robert Waldrep(Donna); her grandchildren, Amanda Maxwell(Daniel), Jennifer Flores(Romero), Karen Parker(Brian), Jacob Waldrep(Sarah) and Anna Cornelius(DJ); and her great grandchildren, Danny Maxwell, Joshua Maxwell, Aaron Maxwell, Cameron Yeager, Olivia Yeager, Lawton Yeager, Tyler Parker, Lucy Parker, Molly Parker, Asher Waldrep, Oliver Cornelius and Truett Cornelius. She is also survived by a host of Nieces, Nephews and friends. Visitation will be held at Flat Rock Methodist Church, 1508 County Road 933, Crane Hill, AL 35053, on May 15, 2026, from 10 a.m.-noon. A Celebration of Life Funeral Service will follow, at noon. A Graveside Committal Service will be held at Flat Rock Methodist Church Cemetery. To leave condolences for the Waldrep family visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

**Amy Marie Watson, 54**
Funeral Service for Amy Marie Watson, age 54 of Cullman, will be at 12 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home-Cemetery; burial at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home-Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 p.m. – 12 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2026 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home-Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Ms. Watson passed away on Monday, May 11, 2026, at her residence. She was born Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1971, to Michael Montag and Helen Marie Crisan. She was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include her, daughter, Jade (Bryce White) Bontrager; sons, Wesley and Bo Kelly; brothers, Albert and Mike Montag; her beloved dog, Peachy; and a host of family and friends.

**Ernie Lee Walker, 67**
Ernie Lee Walker, age 67 of Decatur, passed away on Monday, May 11, 2026, at Decatur Morgan Hospital. He was born Jan. 1, 1959, to Earnest and Trishel Harris Walker. He was preceded in death by his parents and in-laws, Curtis and Mildred Banister. Survivors include; his wife, Patsy Walker; daughter, Summer Walkerl; son, Clayton (Katrina) Walker; grandson, Samuel Walker; sister, Donna Kelly; nephew, Shannon (Anita) Kelly; great nieces, Karessa (Peyton) Tidwell and Ashton Kelly; great great niece Lillon Tidwell; brother-in-law, Mike (Stacy) Banister his beloved dog, Tylee and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. No services are planned at this time. Cullman Heritage is honored to serve the family.

**Milford Wayne Ponder, 81**
Milford Wayne Ponder, age 81, passed away Monday, May 11, 2026, at CRMC. He was a man known for his kind heart, faithful friendships, and love for simple joys in life. A graveside service will be held Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 2 p.m., at Ebenezer Cemetery with Rev. Steve Rodgers officiating. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Wayne was born April 14, 1945, to William Oscar "Ott" Ponder and Josephina "Josie" Brock Ponder. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Sherry Ponder, and his siblings, Nell Ponder, Doris Ponder Jones, Maudean "Dean" Ponder McNutt, Rachel Ponder Steele; Doyle J. Ponder, Jasper Floyd "Bud" Ponder, Dempsey Ponder, Kenneth Ponder. He is survived by nieces, nephews, family and friends. Wayne was an avid sports fan who especially loved Alabama Crimson Tide football and Atlanta Braves baseball. He enjoyed keeping up with every game and cheering on his favorite teams through the years. He was also known throughout the community for his caring spirit. When his health allowed, Wayne faithfully visited the sick and made it a point to pay his respects at local funeral homes, offering comfort and support to many families during difficult times. Wayne found happiness in life's quiet moments. He dearly loved his cat, Babe, watching the birds outdoors and his bird houses. These simple pleasures brought him peace and joy. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

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## FREE OBITUARY LISTINGS

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
MAY 14, 2026

# Hogland, Davis, Paschall named principals of Harmony, CCCDC, Good Hope Elementary

**Staff Reports**
Contributor







CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

***Left to right are Dr. Emy Hogland, Josh Davis and Emily Paschall.***

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman County Schools this week announced the appointments of three new principals for the upcoming school year: Dr Emy Hogland at Harmony School, Josh Davis at the Cullman County Child Development Center and Emily Paschall at Good Hope Elementary School.

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette said the district is excited to welcome each leader into their new role.

"I am proud to announce that these outstanding administrators will serve as the next principals of their respective schools," said Barnette. "While they each follow exceptional leaders, I am confident they are prepared and eager to guide their faculty, staff and students toward continued success and achievement. Each leader is excited to build strong relationships within their school community and looks forward to getting to know the students, families, faculty and staff they will serve."

**HARMONY SCHOOL**
**Dr. Emy Hogland**

Hogland currently serves as assistant principal for both Parkside School and Vinemont Middle School. She brings 11 years of experience in education and educational leadership to her new role. Hogland replaces Kevin Sullins, who is retiring.

She earned her bachelor's degree in K-6 Education from Athens State University, a master's degree in Instructional Leadership from the University of West Alabama, an Education Specialist degree in Instructional Leadership from UWA and a doctorate in Organizational Change from UWA.

"I am honored to step into this leadership role at Harmony, and I am excited to serve such an amazing school community," said Hogland.

"I look forward to working alongside the outstanding teachers and staff as we continue to create a positive and supportive environment where every student can succeed."

Hogland shared that Ephesians 2:10 has served as an inspiration throughout her journey in education: "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

**CULLMAN COUNTY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**
**Josh Davis**

Davis currently serves as assistant principal at West Point Middle School and brings more than a decade of experience in education and leadership to his new role. He is replacing Trett Hardman, who is transferring to be the new principal of Fairview High School.

A 2004 graduate of Fairview, Davis began his career in education at Madison County High School, where he taught ninth-grade world history from 2014-2017. During his time there, he was named Madison County High School Teacher of the Year in 2017.

In 2017, Davis returned to Cullman County and joined Hanceville High School, where he taught history. He later served at Fairview Middle School from 2018-2021 and was recognized as Fairview Alumni Teacher of the Year for the 2019-2020 school year.

Davis began his administrative career as assistant principal at Holly Pond K-8 in 2021 before moving to West Point Middle School in 2022, where he has served since.

He earned a master's degree in Instructional Leadership from UWA in 2019 and an Education Specialist degree in Instructional Leadership from Auburn University at Montgomery in 2023.

"I am incredibly grateful to be named principal at the Child Development Center," said Davis.

"This opportunity is an absolute honor. I'm excited to serve alongside the faculty and staff at the CDC as we continue to build on the foundation they have established."

Davis also reflected on his time at West Point Middle School.

"I am very thankful for my time at West Point Middle. God blessed me with a wonderful situation to grow there these last four years," he said. "I'm forever grateful to Mr. Thompson and the West Point community."

**GOOD HOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
**Emily Paschall**

Paschall brings 16 years of experience in education to her new role. She is replacing Beverly Jenkins, who is retiring.

Throughout Paschall's career, she has served students and teachers in a variety of instructional and leadership positions, including teaching first, third and fifth grades, serving as a district math coach and working as an elementary assistant principal for five years in both the Hartselle City and Limestone County school districts.

For the past two years, Paschall has served as instructional supervisor at Limestone County Career Technical Center, where she supported teachers, instructional improvement and student opportunities across career and technical education programs.

In addition to her work in schools, Paschall is the author of "Eyes on Culture: Multiply Excellence in Your School" and serves as a national public speaker, supporting educators and school leaders in the areas of school culture, leadership and instructional improvement.

"No matter the role I have served in, I have always considered myself a teacher first," said Paschall. "I believe great schools are built through relationships, trust and a shared commitment to kids. I believe our job as educators is to recognize every child's strengths, help them discover their purpose and empower them to become everything they were created to be."

Paschall and her 9-year-old daughter, Avery, are excited to join the Raider family and become part of the Good Hope community together.

"I am honored, humbled and grateful to be entrusted with such an important role," she added. "Schools are the heart of a community, and I cannot wait to join Good Hope in serving and supporting the next generation. Go Raiders!"

Barnette will recommend Hogland, Davis and Paschall to the Cullman County School Board for approval at its next meeting, which is Monday, May 18. Each principal will officially begin their new role on July 1.

# Cullman High celebrates FFA members

**Anabelle Howze**
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The Cullman High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter celebrated student achievements at its annual awards banquet on Friday, May 8.

Animal Science Instructor and FFA Advisor Ramona Weeks described the event as "positive, energetic and inspiring" as everyone came together to honor a year filled with leadership, career growth and competition wins.

Students received recognition for earning Chapter and Greenhand Degrees, as well as for their achievements in Career Development Events in areas like Aquaculture, Agricultural Mechanics, Floriculture, Horse and Poultry Evaluation, Livestock and Veterinary Science, Forestry and Natural Resource Management.

One of the evening's biggest highlights was honoring Kylie Calvert and Bryantt Hupp, who earned FFA State Degrees.

According to Weeks, this is the first time in at least 10 years that Cullman High School FFA members have reached this milestone.

The Aquaculture and Agricultural Mechanics teams were recognized for qualifying to compete at the state level in June. Fourteen student-led agriscience fair projects were also honored and will move on to the Alabama State FFA Convention this summer. Special awards went to students who best represented the FFA motto, "Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve."

The chapter's Member of the Year Award, selected by the student leadership team, was presented to Kylie Calvert.

Weeks explained that the banquet mattered because it allowed the community to recognize how much effort students put in all year.

"The banquet was more than an awards ceremony. It was a celebration of leadership, service, agriculture and the positive impact these students are making in and beyond the school," Weeks said.

Looking to the future, Weeks said she hopes the Cullman High School FFA program will keep growing with help from the community, school leaders and district administration.

She stressed that agricultural education prepares students for careers in science, mechanics, environmental management, business and technology.

"Agricultural education is about much more than farming," she said. "Supporting programs like FFA helps strengthen the connection between education, industry and community growth."



LESLEY HYDE

***Front row, left to right, are Secretary Taylor Laney, President Kylie Calvert, Sentinel Will Tomlin and Parliamentarian Dawson Helton. Back row, left to right, are Advisor Ramona Weeks, Treasurer Shelby Littrell, Vice President Bryantt Hupp and Reporter Colin Hyde.***

# Wallace State celebrates Respiratory Therapy Class of 2026



WALLACE STATE

*Wallace State Community College celebrated the Respiratory Therapy Class of 2026 during a recent pinning ceremony recognizing 30 graduates transitioning from students to professional caregivers.*

**Special to The Cullman Tribune**

**HANCEVILLE, Ala.** — Wallace State Community College celebrated the Respiratory Therapy Class of 2026 during a recent pinning ceremony recognizing 30 graduates transitioning from students to professional caregivers.

Program Director Ashley Lancaster opened the ceremony by emphasizing the significance of the milestone. "While graduation highlights the completion of academic study, this pinning ceremony marks your important transition from student to respiratory therapist," she said.

Class Representative Emma Bice delivered the invocation. "We are grateful for the friendships that have strengthened us, for the mentors who have guided us, and for the loved ones who have supported and believed in us," Bice said, asking for continued guidance as graduates begin their careers.

Class President Jarrett Peeples addressed his classmates, highlighting the journey they shared. "The program wasn't easy... but we showed up for each other, helped one another study, and learned together," Peeples said. He encouraged his peers to move forward with confidence: "Class of 2026, let's go out there and be great Respiratory Therapists."

Respiratory Therapy instructor Jennifer Arbona served as guest speaker and reminded the graduates of the importance of the work they will be doing. "You enter people's lives at some of their most critical, vulnerable moments — when every breath matters," Arbona said. "You don't just treat lungs — you care for people, families and moments that will never be forgotten."

Arbona congratulated the graduates on their success. "That didn't happen by accident — it happened because you showed up, again and again, even when it was hard," she said, encouraging graduates to continue learning and to remember why they chose the profession.

During the ceremony, students were individually recognized and ceremonially pinned, symbolizing their readiness to join the respiratory care profession following completion of their board exams.

The program also honored outstanding students with recognition awards. Clinical Director Tabatha Tatum highlighted the importance of the profession and the achievements of the class. "Respiratory therapy isn't just about lungs, ventilators or oxygen levels — it's about relief, trust, and helping someone take the next breath," she said.

**Awards presented include:**

- Respiratory Therapy Program Excellence Award: Jarrett Peeples
- Academic Excellence Award: Jada Butler
- Lambda Beta Honor Society Inductees: Jada Butler, Jarrett Peeples
- Clinical Excellence Award: Ben Waid

The Respiratory Therapy program is accepting applications for Fall 2026 entry through June 1.

For more information, visit www.wallacestate.edu/respiratory-therapy or contact Jennifer Craig at 256-352-8307 or Jennifer.craig@wallacestate.edu.

# Wallace State Nursing celebrates May 2026 graduates

**Special to The Cullman Tribune**

**HANCEVILLE, Ala.** — Wallace State Community College's Department of Nursing Education celebrated the graduation of more than 120 students during its May 2026 pinning ceremony. Among those graduates were the first cohorts for the joint enrollment option offered through Athens State University and the evening class.

Program chair Deborah "Pepper" Hoover congratulated the students on their success and asked them to remember that nursing is more than a profession. "It is a calling — an unyielding desire to serve, uplift and heal," Hoover said. "Your patients will look to you for solace, hope and healing. Be their unwavering advocate, their beacon of light in times of darkness."

Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics echoed that sentiment and reminded the students that one day they could be taking care of someone loved by one of their fellow graduates, before congratulating on their achievement.

"Tonight, as we receive our pins, we're not just marking the completion of a program, we are accepting a calling," said Class President Pamela Tidmore of Boaz. "This pin is not just a symbol, it represents every patient who trusted us while we were still learning, every moment we stood at the bedside unsure but determined. Every time we chose compassionate care event when we were so exhausted. It represents the promise that we now carry forward."

Tidmore admitted the job will not be easy. "It will test us in ways we cannot fully prepare to face," she said. "It will ask for our strength, our compassion and our resilience. But it will also give us something few professions can — the opportunity to make a difference in the most vulnerable moments of someone's life."

Class Vice President Joshua Ogle of Guntersville thanked the faculty who have helped build the Nursing program's exceptional reputation and for how they have prepared them for their careers.

"You didn't just give us the tools to do our job, you gave us the foundation to build a career," Ogle said. "Because of your commitment to excellence, we're not just leaving here with a pin, we're leaving here with a legacy."

**Nightingale Awards presented**

During the ceremony, the Nursing department presented its Nightingale Awards, given in recognition of commitment to excellence and dedication to compassion and exemplary patient care. Those receiving the award were Amanda Parker, Johnnie Sue Mims, Dylan Carr and Trey Batchelor.

Parker, of Birmingham, was described has having a "can do" attitude and dynamic personality that will go a long way in lifting the spirits of those she will be caring for.

Mims, of Hayden, is said to be a student whose "ability to rise above adversity has not only shaped her growth as a student but has also inspired those around her."

"I don't think I have ever encountered this student when he did not have a smile on his face," one instructor wrote of Carr, of Birmingham. "He is truly happy to serve others and is in his element to spread his love for service.



WALLACE STATE

*Nightingale Award winners are from left, Dylan Car, Trey Batchelor, Johnnie Sue Mims and Amanda Baker.*

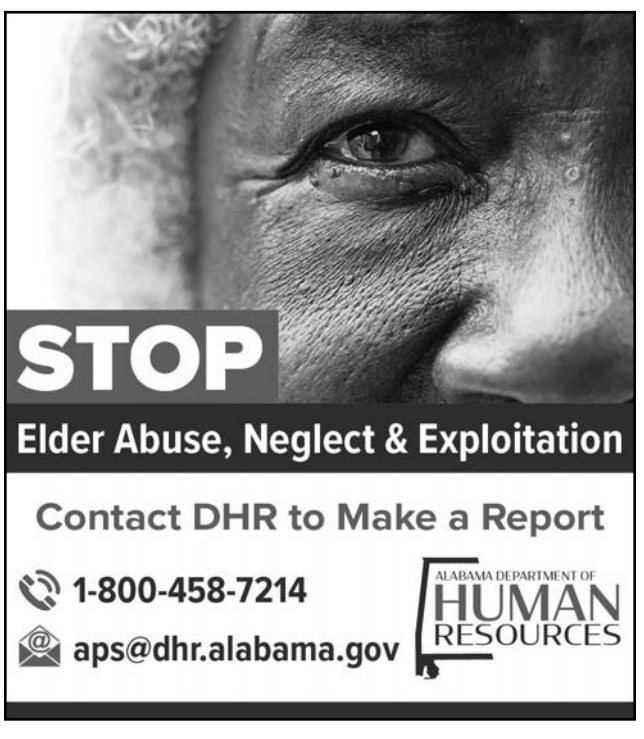
Batchelor, of Morris, is said to "exemplify the core values of the nursing profession through his professionalism, humility and dedication to service."

Other Nightingale Award nominees were Kiara Aaron, Sara Archer, Amanda Bordas, Colin Crump, Ava Dunn, Kaylie Ellis, Faith Hixon, Jeb Jarrett, Alonso Salgado-Cabanas, Russell Stephens, Kenleigh Teague, Ella Thomas and Pamela Tidmore.

Another pinning ceremony for the August 2026 cohort is planned for an estimated 135 students. The ceremony will take place on Thursday, Aug. 6, at 5 p.m. at Traditions Bank Arena inside Tom Drake Coliseum.

For more information about the Wallace State Nursing program, visit www.wallacestate.edu/nursing, email nursingapplicant@wallacestate.edu or call 256-352-8199.












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