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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

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WEATHER

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
MOSTLY CLOUDY THEN CHANCE T-STORMS

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KAYLA THOMPSON

— SPORTS —

Cullman County 4-H Shotgun Club brings team, individual awards home from 2026 State Championship
» PAGE 4

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Preston Boyd named Good Hope High School principal

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette is recommending Preston Boyd as the next principal of Good Hope High School. Boyd currently serves as the assistant principal of Good Hope High. He will replace Jyme Jennings, who is the new secondary curriculum coordinator for the district.

Boyd holds an Educational Specialist degree in Educational Leadership from Auburn University at Montgomery, a Master of Arts in Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a Bachelor of Science in Social Science with secondary education licensure and certification from Athens State University.

Before joining Good Hope, Boyd served as a secondary education teacher at Vinemont High School, West Point High School and Madison County High School. He has also served on school support committees and coached basketball and football.

Barnette believes Boyd is the perfect fit to move Good Hope forward for several years to come. "Preston Boyd is going to be a great leader for the Good Hope community," said Barnette. "He is deeply invested in the success of the school and has consistently shown a willingness to step forward, support » PAGE 4



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS
Preston Boyd

Cullman Christkindlmarkt named Alabama's 2026 Event of the Year



2025 PHOTO/MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
The Alabama Tourism Department has named the Cullman Christkindlmarkt the 2026 Event of the Year.

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Christkindlmarkt has been selected as the 2026 Event of the Year by the Alabama Tourism Department, recognizing the festival's sustained impact on tourism, community engagement and economic development across the state.

What began as an effort to create a meaningful holiday celebration for the Cullman community has grown into one of the Southeast's premier Christmas destinations. Held annually in downtown Cullman, the Christkindlmarkt blends German-inspired traditions with family-friendly attractions, artisan vendors, live entertainment, regional cuisine and immersive holiday experiences — drawing visitors from across the country while remaining firmly rooted in the local community.

Since launch- » PAGE 7

Cullman City Council approves $5.3M tax abatement for 'Project Panel'
» PAGE 5

2 killed in I-65 crash in Cullman County
» PAGE 8

NWS Huntsville confirms EF-1 tornado impacted Holly Pond, Baileyton May 22
» PAGE 8

EDITORIAL

This is not ding-dong ditch anymore



GARY WIGGINS
» PAGE 5

St. Paul's Lutheran Church FREE Community Yard Sale June 6
» PAGE 8

PET OF THE WEEK

Marilyn is a quiet observer with a loving heart



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
Marilyn
» PAGE 3



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported May 27

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported May 27, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

May 21
- domestic violence; CR 762
- possession of dangerous drugs; US. 231
- violation of protection order; CR 1155
- criminal mischief; CR 515
- possession of controlled substance; possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; I65NB MM 305

May 22
- possession of controlled substance with intent to distribute; possession of controlled substance; possession of dangerous drugs; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 649
- theft of property; Beech Grove Rd.
- criminal mischief; Main St. NW Hanceville
- domestic violence; CR 762

May 23
- possession of dangerous drugs; Hwy. 69S
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 616
- domestic violence; CR 1145
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 1226

May 24
- domestic violence; CR 1850
- dog bite; Hwy. 91
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; Firestation Rd.

May 25
- assault; CR 1558
- domestic violence; criminal mischief; CR 463

ARRESTS

May 21-24

Allen, Gail P.; 66
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Barbee, Benjamin H.; 48
- violation of a domestic violence protection order
- attempting to elude a police officer
- resisting arrest
- obstruction-governmental operations

Cornelius, James G.; 34
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- open container-alcohol in a vehicle

Crutchfield, Chad T.; 45
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Giles, Gerald G.; 67
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- possession of dangerous drugs

Grey, Jeremy B.; 55
- PROBATION VIOLATION – criminal trespass
- PROBATION VIOLATION – theft of property-4th degree – other motor vehicle-does not exceed $500
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA – attempting to elude a police officer
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, less than $500
- FTA – burglary-residence-no force

Hyde, Jamie F.; 51
- FTA – possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – using false identity to avoid arrest/hinder prosecution

Lake, Lanta N.; 43
- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Manasco, Jennifer L.; 41
- permitting dogs to run at large

Martin, Kylen D.; 24
- FTA – speed above 45 mph, county road
- FTA – driving while license suspended

Miller, Leroy S.; 49
- FTA – sex offense – failure of adult sex offender to register with local law enforcement and/or comply with residential restriction

Nunnelley, Jacky L.; 51
- PROBATION VIOLATION – auto theft
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of dangerous drugs
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of drug paraphernalia

Pate, Tiffany R.; 33
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Spain, Durell; 25
- FTA – unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle (no theft or damage)

Stevens, Ashely N.; 34
- possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – drug trafficking
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Victory, Kenny R.; 48
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of dangerous drugs
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Weeks, Christopher J.; 48
- theft-firearms

Westbrook, Leah D.; 35
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- PROBATION VIOLATION – unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- FTA – burglary-residence-force
- FTA – forgery-counterfeiting (6 counts)
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, less than $500 (3 counts)
- FTA – sell/distribution of dangerous drugs
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous (2 counts)
- unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Wimbs, Shanna L.; 46
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- illegal possession of prescription drugs

Yancey, Eddie R.; 40
- FTA – obstructing justice using a false identity-fictitious person

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

May 19
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $430; Olive St. SW
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $703; Olive St. SW

May 22
- assault-3rd degree; person; Cooper Cir. SW

May 23
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '15 Jeep; $1,000; 2nd Ave. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; miscellaneous; $8; 3rd St. SE
- duty upon striking unattended vehicle; person; damage to '19 Mercedes; Olive St. SW
- harassment; person; 2nd Ave. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $54; Olive St. SW
- harassment; person; Tallyho St. SW

May 24
- harassment; person; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $280; Olive St. SW

May 25
- theft of property-2nd degree; person; pistol; $300; Main Ave. SW
- burglary-3rd degree; criminal mischief-3rd degree; Shell; 2nd Ave. SW
- retail theft of property-1st degree; Lowe's; general merchandise; $2,548; Cherokee Ave. SW
- burglary; criminal mischief; person; damaged property; 10th St. SE
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $898; Olive St. SW

May 26
- criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damaged door; $500; Ward Ave. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person; Wisteria St. SE

ARRESTS

May 22-26

Ramirez, Eric I.; 29
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Weeks, Christopher J.; 48
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – unauthorized use of vehicle

Jones, Marty L.; 59
- FTA – insurance violation

Monroe, Riley T.; 24
- public intoxication
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- assault-3rd degree

Monroe, Tanya R.; 45
- public intoxication
- FTA – driving without license (2 counts)

Giles, Gerald G.; 67
- FTA – domestic violence-3rd degree

Hedgecock, Abigail F.; 27
- FTA – insurance violation

Westbrook, Leah D.; 35
- FTA – public intoxication

Madden, Christopher D.; 56
- theft of property-4th degree
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Hargrove, Dexter L.; 38
- theft of property-4th degree
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- illegal possession of prescription drugs

Hyde, Jamie F.; 51
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – expired tag
- FTA – insurance violation

Oliver, Kevin J.; 27
- DUI

Soto Antunez, Yunior J.; 20
- DUI
- duty to inform law enforcement of firearm possession

Powell, Joseph D.; 28
- FTA – reckless driving
- FTA – insurance violation

Rawls, Destiny C.; 25
- theft of property-4th degree

Hobbs, Joseph M.; 38
- criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

Still, Haley J.; 24
- retail theft of property-2nd degree

Love, Kelvin D.; 56
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment

Uselton, Dana M.; 37
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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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 29 – 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.
- Sunday, May 31 – 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.
- 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
- Saturday, June 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. TEEN Club "Bedazzle art design"
- 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
- Wednesday, June 17, 10 a.m.-noon Storytime – Snead's Farmhouse is coming with animals and an outstanding presentation. Judy always does a great and fun program!
- Wednesday, June 17, 1:15 p.m. Crochet class
- Thursday, June 18, 10 a.m. Boy Scout Colin Hyde will teach us about bats!
- Saturday, June 20, 10 a.m. Adult book club. Not too late to join!
- Wednesday, June 24, 10 a.m. Hanceville Fire Department will be here with firetrucks, fire safety presentations and demonstrations. Get sprayed with the hose! Bring suits and towels.
- Wednesday, June 24, 1:15 p.m. Crochet class
- July 1 BREAK
- Wednesday, July 8, 10 a.m. "My feathered friends" with Cullman Soil and Water – Millie Keel
- Wednesday, July 8, 1 p.m. Crochet class
- Wednesday, July 15, 10 a.m. "Raptor Outreach" by Cullman Extension 4-H Kerri Roberts
- Wednesday, July 15, 1 p.m. Crochet class
- Saturday, July 18, 10 a.m. Adult book club

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.

Relay For Life
Saturday, May 30, from 6-10 p.m. at Depot Park. We can't wait to come together as a community to celebrate, remember and fight back. Join us for an evening filled with hope, connection and purpose as we honor survivors and support caregivers, and stand united in the mission to end cancer. Bring your team, your family, your friends and your passion for the cause. From opening ceremonies to the final lap, every moment helps fuel the impact we're making together for Relay For Life of Cullman County 2026. Live music by Jesse Priest, food trucks, car show, permanent jewelry, vendors, bounce houses, luminaria service and more.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church FREE Community Yard Sale
Saturday, June 6, beginning at 8 a.m. The event is intended to serve the community by providing clothing and household items at no cost. Community members are invited to come browse available items and take what they need in a welcoming environment. Individuals and families throughout the community are encouraged to attend and take part in this day of fellowship and service.

Cullman NARFE Chapter Meeting
Monday, June 8, at Freddie Day's restaurant. The lunch will begin at 11 a.m.; business meeting and guess speaker will follow at noon. All federal retirees, spouses and guests are welcome.

Smith Lake Park 4th of July Fireworks Festival
Saturday, July 4, from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Fireworks at 9 p.m. There will be a full lineup of live music, including More Cowbell, The Connection, Albert Simpson and Taylor Hicks. There will also be food vendors and arts and crafts vendors all day, plus games and golf cart parade Admission is $5 per person or $20 per vehicle.

Vinemont 4th of July Celebration
Sunday, July 5, at the Vinemont Sports Complex. Gates open at 6 p.m. Fireworks show starts at 9. Celebration of America 250 and 65 years of incorporation for the Town of South Vinemont. Food, kids' play zone and fireworks. Presented by the Town of South Vinemont and Vinemont Baptist Church.

Marilyn (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Marilyn is a domestic shorthair blond tabby with a gentle spirit and an affectionate heart. She's The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

At approximately 1 year old, Marilyn has a calm, unassuming demeanor that makes her easy to love. She is the kind of cat who notices everything around her without needing to be the center of attention every second.

But when attention is offered, Marilyn gladly accepts it.

This affectionate girl loves the kindness people give her, settling into the role of a quiet companion with ease. Her soft personality and observant nature make her an ideal choice for someone looking for a therapy or companion pet.

Marilyn's charm is not loud or demanding. It is steady, sweet and comforting.

Her adoption fee is $100, which includes her vaccines, spay and microchip.

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 Marilyn has already been adopted, there are plenty of friends still waiting for their chance at a loving home.

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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



HENRY CROCKER

Cullman Track and Field's Henry Crocker

PREP TRACK & FIELD

Cullman's Henry Crocker reflects on his time as a Bearcat so far

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — With the 2026 track and field season in the rearview, Cullman rising senior Henry Crocker shared some of his favorite track and field moments, plus what it was like being around some great teammates.

"My favorite track and field moment is when we went to state. It was filled with so much unity, and it was a fun atmosphere. I raced well in my events, getting a 5-second PR in the mile, splitting the 2:00.01 in the 4×800 and getting to bond with my friends and teammates. Getting to see the support from my family and the community was the best feeling in the world," Crocker said. "It was amazing. We've created such a strong culture, and this past season, I really feel like I'm a part of a brotherhood here."

Crocker was around an amazing coach, who played an enormous part in his journey to get to where he's at right now. Crocker took away a lot from his coach and his teammates.

"Coach Trent Dean has done an amazing job being not just a coach, pushing me to be a good athlete, but also a mentor and a guide throughout my journey since the seventh grade. He's always been the person I come to if I'm uncertain about training, or if I want to know about anything track-related, because he knows what he's talking about. He's very knowledgeable. They taught me lessons on accountability, character, discipline, and they also taught me how to grow as a whole person, not just an athlete," Crocker said.

It wasn't hard for him to talk about his favorite track and field race.

"The state championship 1600 I raced on Thursday, April 30, 2026, was my favorite one ever. The first two and a half laps felt controlled, and there was a gap on the inside that my opponents were scared to take, because it could mean getting pushed off the track. I took the gap and held on until the last lap. I closed fast, as I passed multiple people at the very end," Crocker said. "I will remember and miss getting to hang out with my teammates all day at school, then turn around and practice with them. The guys' and girls' teams got close this season, and we'd all go out to eat together for a team meal a few nights before a race to bond together."

He talked about a couple of very important role models that he's blessed to have in his life, and he will take away a lot during his career.

"My role models are my parents. My mom played golf in college, and she's shown me how to really push myself in competition. My dad influences me heavily, from how I carry myself, to how I treat others. He teaches me how to treat people and handle difficult situations. I owe everything to God and to them," he said. "It has fully molded who I am. I have learned how to honor others, regardless of their situation, and care for 'teammates,' whether that means people that are also wearing the Cullman jersey, my friends on other teams, or those in need."

Crocker shared his favorite high school memory so far, and said he is blessed to be a part of something special at Cullman.

"My favorite high school memory was getting third place in the 4×800. Our race was particularly competitive, because the two teams that beat us ran the no. 36 and the no. 44 times in the nation, and many other very good teams were in contention with us. We had gotten upset by some teams that should've never beaten us at the Sectional championships, but we didn't let that phase us at all at State. Everyone on the team did what they needed to do, and I couldn't be more proud of the squad I got to race with," he said. "I only started going to Cullman in my seventh grade year. I've lived here all my life, but leading up to that point, I had tried some different schools in Cullman, but the second I got onto Cullman's campus, I felt the difference. For the most part, the teachers actually care about what they do, and the standard of excellence is apparent in the classroom, on the track and throughout the school."

Crocker said he leaned on some older teammates when he was young, and they helped him love doing track and field. He gave some advice to the students who will be starting high school in August.

"My role models in and outside of school were my parents and the older teammates I had when I was in middle school and ninth grade. In my ninth-grade year, I got close with two upperclassmen, Andrue Barnett and David Manishirov, and I constantly looked up to them. They mentored me and made me love doing my sport," he said. "My advice to them is to live in the moment, and believe in yourself. It's very easy to get up in your head, and be afraid of what others think, but what always helped me the most is just focusing on having fun and taking yourself less seriously, while still getting work done in school and in extracurriculars."

God has played a huge role during Crocker's time at Cullman, and he leans on a Bible verse to help him get through everyday life.

"My relationship with God has played a tremendous role in both academics and athletics. These years at Cullman High School have been both the best and hardest years of my life. Through these moments, I have seen the grace of God in so many different ways in victory and loss. God saw me in the worst times of my life, and I felt His presence. I have been given so many blessings from Him, and I am very grateful. As time moves on, I know that His love will stay constant forever and will guide me," he said. "My favorite Bible verse is James 1:12: 'Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial, because having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him.' This verse was so influential to me, because it showed me how all trials of my life will come to pass, and that God gives me strength in time of doubt. Because of this, I know that God would not test me if He knew that I could not accomplish what's in front of me."

Being a role model for the younger kids is so important to Crocker, and he will take away so much from being a Bearcat.

"It's crazy to think about how I am now who people look up to on the track. Now being an older athlete that some might look up to, it is so important to be a good role model for them. I always try my best to be friendly to my competitors and other athletes I meet," he said. "What I will take away from being at Cullman is that you only lose when you give up. What really made me have a productive season this year is believing that I could. I never had any doubt this year in my ability to score good on tests or run well in races, and it worked."

Cullman County 4-H Shotgun Club brings team, individual awards home from 2026 State Championship

Lucas Gray
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CHILDERSBURG, Ala. — This past weekend, Cullman County's 4-H Shotgun Team traveled to the Red Eagle Trap and Skeet range in Childersburg to compete in the 2026 Alabama 4-H Shotgun State Championship competition. Among teams from across Alabama, Cullman's shooters raked in awards, individually and as teams, with the Senior squad placing second in their division and the Juniors taking the gold in theirs. All winners, as well as their competitions, can be found below.



KAYLA THOMPSON

Cullman County 4-H Shotgun's Colt Thompson, who earned Second Place High Over All in the Senior Division.

Senior Division, Individual

- Colt Thompson – Second Place in Senior Trap, Third Place in Senior Skeet, Second Place in Senior HOA (High Over All)
- Brayden Martin – Third Place in Senior Sporting Clays

Senior Division, Team

- Second Place HOA Team – Colt Thompson, Brayden Martin, Trenton Mobley, Gloria Phromchantra

Junior Division, Individual

- Zeke Britton – First Place Junior Sporting Clays
- Zoe Wakefield – Third Place Junior Trap, Third Place Junior HOA
- Jacob Dockery – Third Place Junior Skeet

Junior Division, Team

- First Place Junior HOA Team – Zeke Britton, Zoe Wakefield, Jacob Dockery, Justin Johnson

Cullman, West Point stars to compete in 2026 AHSAA North-South All-Star Week

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The rosters for the AHSAA Spring North-South All-Star week competitions have been revealed.

Cullman's Carson Stancil (baseball), Hattie Graham (softball) and Jake Murphree (tennis) as well as West Point's Allie Freeman (golf) were all named and will take place in their respective events in July.



LUCAS GRAY, MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman's Carson Stancil (left) and Hattie Graham (right)

Boyd (from Front)

others and do what is best for students."

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to be the principal of Good Hope High School," said Boyd. "Good Hope is a great community, and it has made my wife, Kellie, and our little girl, Evie, feel welcome from day one. From academics to athletics, we will continue to chase excellence.

Thank you to Dr. Barnette, Mr. (Richard) Orr and Mr. (Kerry) Neighbors for this opportunity. Go Raiders!"

The Cullman County Board of Education will vote to approve Barnette's recommendation at its next meeting, scheduled for June 11. Boyd will officially begin as principal on July 1.



Ditch (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

There was a time when a childish prank meant ringing a doorbell, running away and hiding in a ditch while your friends tried not to laugh too loudly.

It was stupid. It was immature. It was annoying.

But it usually was not destructive.

That is not what the Cullman Police Department described this week after reports of individuals attempting to kick in doors at residences inside the city.

According to the CPD, one adult driver and several juveniles were identified. Police said the juveniles admitted they were participating in what they described as a "prank."

That word is doing a lot of undeserved work.

A prank is not trying to force your way into someone's home at 2:30 in the morning. A prank is not making a family believe, even for a few terrifying seconds, that someone is breaking into the place where they sleep.

A prank is not damaging property, frightening homeowners and depending on the restraint of a startled stranger to keep everyone alive.

That is not childhood mischief. That is reckless stupidity dressed up for social media.

And in Alabama, it is especially dangerous.

Alabama law recognizes a person's right to defend himself, herself or another person from what that person reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of unlawful physical force.

The law also includes circumstances involving someone who is in the process of unlawfully and forcefully entering a dwelling, residence, business property or occupied vehicle.

In those circumstances, the law provides a legal presumption tied to the use of deadly physical force, and a person who is justified under the statute has no duty to retreat in a place where he or she has a right to be.

That does not mean every shooting is justified. It does not mean every homeowner can fire at someone running away. It does not mean fear gives anyone unlimited authority.

But it does mean this: a teenager or adult who runs up to a home in the dark and starts kicking the door is gambling with more than a citation, a repair bill or an angry parent.

They are gambling with their life.

This is where parents need to stop pretending young teenagers are grown adults when it is convenient, then children when consequences arrive.

A 13-year-old does not need to be roaming neighborhoods in the early morning hours playing social media stuntman.

A juvenile does not need an audience, a driver, a camera phone or a friend group brave enough to be stupid, but not mature enough to understand what happens when a homeowner wakes up terrified.

The adult driver, if the facts support it, deserves serious scrutiny, too.

An adult transporting juveniles while they target homes is not simply "along for the ride."

Alabama law makes it unlawful for a person to willfully aid, encourage or cause a child to become or remain delinquent, dependent or in need of supervision.

That is not a small detail.

Adults are supposed to be the brakes. They are not supposed to be the getaway car.

The CPD was right to say this is not harmless. It was right to warn that homeowners have the right to defend themselves, their families and their property when they believe someone is attempting to unlawfully enter their residence. It was right to warn that these situations can escalate quickly and result in serious injury or death.

But the public is also right to ask whether restitution alone sends a strong enough message.

According to the CPD, after speaking with law enforcement, the victim chose to allow restitution for the damages in lieu of criminal prosecution.

That may resolve one homeowner's property damage. It may be what that particular victim wanted. It may be legally permissible.

However, it does not resolve the larger public safety problem.

When multiple homes are reportedly targeted, when juveniles are involved, when an adult driver is identified and when the conduct involves attempts to kick in doors at night, the issue is bigger than one damaged door. It becomes a community warning.

The warning should not be whispered.

Across the country, door-knocking and door-kicking pranks have already produced the kind of outcomes no parent wants to imagine.

In September 2025, police in Houston said an 11-year-old boy was shot and killed after knocking on a door and running away as a prank.

The homeowner was charged with murder.

In Virginia, NBC Washington reported in May 2025 that a homeowner was arrested on a murder charge after an 18-year-old was shot and killed in a case friends described as a doorbell prank being filmed for TikTok.

In Frisco, Texas, police said a man was arrested after allegedly firing multiple shots at a vehicle carrying teenagers who admitted to ding-dong ditching in a random neighborhood.

Those cases do not excuse reckless gunfire. They do not erase the responsibility of the person who pulls a trigger.

But they do prove the point.

There is nothing funny about making a homeowner believe a break-in is happening.

There is nothing harmless about turning someone's front door into a prop for entertainment.

There is nothing innocent about creating a situation where seconds, fear and darkness decide whether someone goes home or becomes a cautionary story.

Parents should have the conversation now. Not after a police call. Not after a damaged door. Not after a child is booked, injured or buried.

Ask where your children are. Ask who is driving them. Ask what "challenge" they think is funny. Ask whether they understand that homeowners do not know the difference between a prank and an attempted break-in at 2:30 in the morning.

And for the adults who encourage it, drive it, film it or shrug it off, stop hiding behind the word "kids."

Kids need correction. Adults need accountability.

Cullman does not need a tragedy before this is treated seriously. The district attorney's office, law enforcement and the courts do not need a press conference beside a grieving family to understand what is at stake.

The lesson should be simple enough.

Do not kick someone's door.

Do not make your stupidity someone else's emergency.

And do not act surprised when a reckless game comes with a prize no one can undo.

Council (from Front)

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council at its meeting on Tuesday, May 26, passed a resolution to approve an economic development tax abatement for "Project Panel" in the amount of $5,335,500. The project is expected to create 18 new jobs in its first phase, and 75-100 jobs in its second phase.

The resolution authorized the tax abatement under Alabama's Tax Incentive Reform Act of 1992 for what city documents describe as "a new project or major addition to an existing facility within the city's jurisdiction." The abatement applies to noneducational ad valorem taxes and construction-related transaction taxes, with the noneducational ad valorem portion listed for a 10-year period. City documents state the company name does not have to be revealed until the project is publicly announced.

The request was submitted by Cullman Economic Development Agency (CEDA) Director Jamie Troutman.

"This is phase one – a $5.3 million investment. This can expect to create 18 jobs," Troutman explained.

She said the wages for hourly employees will be between $24 and up to $33, with salaried employees expected to make $70,000-plus per year at entry level.

"Phase two of this project is expected to be three to five years from now, creating an additional 75-100 jobs at that time," she continued.

The Tribune reported Feb. 6, 2026, that Troutman had been named director of CEDA after former director Dale Greer's resignation was accepted Jan. 12, 2026.

In that article, Troutman said recruitment, workforce and infrastructure cannot be separated, while Mayor Woody Jacobs said one of her priorities was protecting and supporting existing local business and industry.

The council also moved forward with a large public works bid package, sidewalk grant application, airport engineering contract, city job description updates, nuisance declarations, landfill financial documents and a one-time retiree bonus.

Approved annual public works bids cover concrete material, concrete finishing, plumbing services, electrical services, general excavation and utility work, rock material, black and gray pipe, concrete pipe, hot and cold mix, laying hot mix and surface treatments.

The work went to Ready Mix USA, LLC; Ortiz Concrete, Inc.; Dulaney Plumbing; K & M Electrical Contractors; Manning Construction LLC; Grayson Carter and Son Contracting Inc.; Ferguson Waterworks LLC; Foley Products Company LLC; Rogers Group Inc. and Chilton Contractors Inc.

The public works approvals come as the city continues to formalize how it plans and prioritizes transportation work.

The Tribune reported April 7, 2026, that the council adopted an ordinance establishing an annual Street and Transportation Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan and approved a First Step Pavement Management agreement for a citywide street assessment.

That assessment includes street inventory and condition ratings, as well as sidewalk, curb, gutter, striping and signage review.

Council members also approved applying for a fiscal year 2027 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant through the Alabama Department of Transportation for ADA-accessible sidewalks beginning at the intersection of Fourth Avenue Northeast and Clark Street Northeast, extending west along Clark Street Northeast to Third Avenue Northeast, then north and south along Third Avenue Northeast to Arnold Street Northeast and First Street Northeast.

The project cost is estimated to be $1,206,507.25, with a maximum TAP award of $800,000 and a local match of $406,507.25, plus engineering design and administrative costs.

The sidewalk grant follows another transportation-related action earlier this month. The Tribune reported May 21, 2026, that the council voted during a special-called May 18 meeting to seek a U.S. Department of Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All grant to develop a citywide roadway safety plan.

The May 18 minutes show the council also approved a contract with Simple Grants, LLC, not to exceed $10,000, for grant-writing services tied to the application.

The council approved a contract with Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood for professional engineering services for taxiway rehabilitation at Cullman Regional Airport. The contract amount is not to exceed $58,381.

The Tribune reported May 12, 2025, that the council had previously awarded a $2,734,670 airport hangar contract, with Airport Director Ben Harrison saying at the time that the airport's north apron would be rebuilt, a new taxiway added and a new hangar constructed.

"The total project was around $279,000. That's a 95-5 grant, 90% federal, 5% state and 5% local. That 5% is split between the city and the county being 2.5% each." Harrison clarified. "So that's about $3,076, I believe, is that this grant would be for each the city and county."

The council also adopted 28 amended job descriptions across several departments. The resolution included two job descriptions for Court, four for Garage, six for Right of Way, one for Sanitation and 15 for Street. The request was submitted by Human Resources Director Michelle Bates.

Two properties were declared public nuisances due to the overgrowth of grass and weeds. The properties are 1315 Maple Drive NW and 611 Cleveland Ave. SW.

The resolution states the conditions include grass or weeds exceeding 12 inches in height, creating an unsightly condition, fire hazard and pest concern.

The council passed the resolution, therefore a public hearing was set for June 22, 2026, at 7 p.m. at Cullman City Hall. The property owners will be notified 21 days prior to the public hearing via mail.

If the nuisances are not corrected, the city may abate the conditions and assess the costs against the properties. The council clarified that, if the property continues to be unkept after the matter is resolved, a new resolution will not be required of the council to address. It will then fall upon the city to proceed with action.

Mayor Jacobs was authorized by fellow council members to execute documents tied to the city's share of closure and post-closure care obligations for the sanitary landfill operated by the Solid Waste Disposal Authority of the City and County of Cullman.

The supporting financial assurance calculation lists the 2026 inflated closure and post-closure cost at $6,493,794.33.

A one-time retiree bonus was approved by the council through the Employees' Retirement System. The supporting Retirement Systems of Alabama letter estimates the city's obligation at $57,520.

The payment is scheduled for October 2026 and applies to eligible retirees or beneficiaries who retired before Oct. 1, 2025, and are entitled to an ERS monthly retirement benefit as of Sept. 30, 2026.

Recognitions

Council President Kim Hall called for Cullman High School Coach Will Drake to be recognized. Drake was named the 6A Boy's Coach of the Year by the Alabama High School Soccer Coaches Association.

Jacobs had previously declared May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month. Hall, next to WellStone Chief Operating Officer Chris Van Dyke, stated that in 2025, 2,801 Cullman residents experiencing emotional and behavioral challenges as well as continued need for mental health services were served by WellStone. The council recognized Van Dyke and Cullman Police Chief Joey Duncan.

Special event request approvals

- St. Paul's Lutheran Church's request to close a portion of Sixth Street Southeast for Vacation Bible School activities June 1-4
- The Link's Race to Restock Scavenger Hunt on June 6
- Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce's Tasty Tuesday events on June 16, July 21 and Aug. 18
- Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County's Spooktacular Storybook 5K and Fun Run on Oct. 24

The council's next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15, at 7 p.m. at Cullman City Hall.

HUGE 1-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION
Deanco Auctioneers
Huge Contractors Equipment & Truck Auction
Thursday, May 28th
Auction Starts at 9:00am
1042 Holland Ave • Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350
Selling All Types of Construction Equipment, including: Dozers, Excavators, Motor Graders, Rubber-tired Loaders, Backhoes, Skid Steers, Compaction Eq.. Also selling Dump Trucks, Truck Tractors, Specialty Trucks, Trailers, Forklifts, Logging Equip., Farm Tractors, Pickups, Vehicles, Attachments, Misc. & Much More!!
Deanco Auction 601-656-9768 www.deancoauction.com
Live Onsite and Online Bidding Auctioneer: Donnie W Dean, #733, MSGL #835
10% Buyers Premium on the first $5000 of each lot and then a 3% buyers premium and the remaining balance of each lot.

Christkindlmarkt (from Front)

ing in its full-scale format, the market has welcomed hundreds of thousands of guests and generated significant economic activity for Cullman's downtown businesses, hotels, restaurants and retailers. At the same time, it has become a cherished annual tradition for families across the region.

Third-party visitor analytics from the 2025 season demonstrated the festival's expanding reach. Placer.ai data captured guests traveling to Cullman from all 50 states, with approximately 60,000 of those in attendance originating outside Alabama. Strong visitor representation came from Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia and Florida, with notable draw from the Nashville, Birmingham, Huntsville and Atlanta metro areas.

Nathan Anderson, executive director of Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism, said the recognition reflects years of intentional planning and a steady focus on serving both the community and the broader region.

"The Cullman Christkindlmarkt was built first and foremost to create a special experience for our community during the holiday season," he said. "What makes this recognition so meaningful is that while the event has grown into a major tourism destination, it has never lost sight of its purpose — bringing people together, celebrating traditions and creating memories for families here in Cullman. We are incredibly honored to receive this recognition from the Alabama Tourism Department."

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs said the award reflects the momentum and community pride shaping Cullman's growing reputation as a destination city.

"The Christkindlmarkt has become a source of pride for our entire community," said the mayor. "It creates lasting memories for families and visitors, and it puts the hospitality, character and energy of Cullman on full display. We are honored to see the work of so many people recognized at the state level."

Cullman Area Tourism Bureau Executive Director Harmony Heard pointed to the festival's expanding tourism reach and its role as a gateway to the rest of the city's offerings.

"The Cullman Christkindlmarkt has significantly elevated Cullman's visibility as a tourism destination," she said. "Each year, we welcome guests from across Alabama and far beyond who come for the market and stay to discover our shops, restaurants, hotels and attractions. The impact of this event extends well beyond the festival grounds, and this recognition is incredibly well deserved."

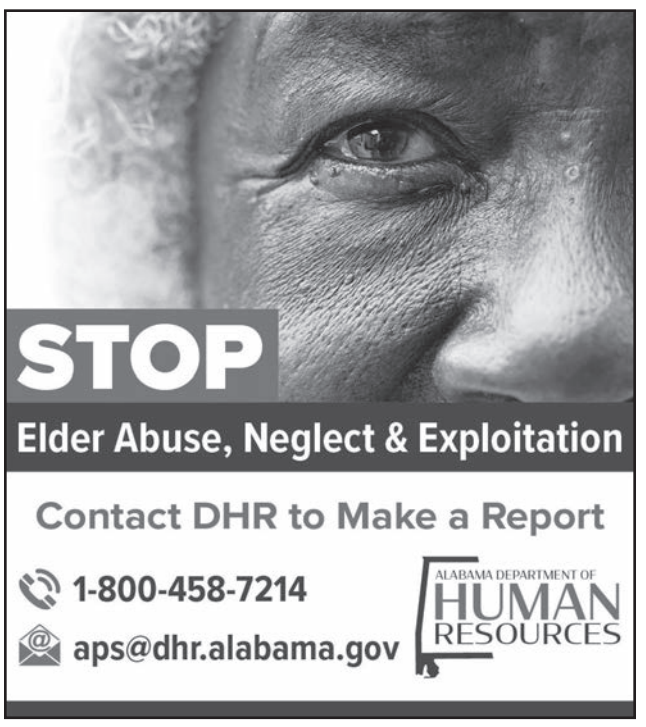
Parks Board Chairman Rusty Turner said the award belongs to everyone who has contributed to the festival, past and present.

Said Turner, "This award represents the vision and hard work of a tremendous number of people who have invested time, creativity and energy into the Christkindlmarkt. From our staff and volunteers to our sponsors, vendors, community partners and leadership both past and present, this has truly been a collective effort. We are proud to see Cullman recognized at the state level for an event that has become such a meaningful part of the holiday season."

The Alabama Tourism Department Event of the Year will be formally presented on Monday, July 13, 2026, during the Alabama Governor's Conference on Tourism at the Renaissance Shoals Resort and Spa in Florence, Alabama.

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







LEGALS

Notice of Sale

Nunnelley's Storage, Hwy 67 South, Somerville, AL. 35670 will sell contents of the following unit at 10 a.m. on June 20, 2026:

Unit #170 Wesley Johnson, 2020 New Center Rd. Trailer 2, Somerville, AL. 35670

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Town of Garden City will hold a public meeting on Friday, June 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at Garden City Town Hall in the Chambers to discuss the FY 2026 Community Development Block Grant program. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the CDBG Program and the proposed applications the Town plans to submit to the Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs (ADECA) for funding consideration. All citizens are encouraged to attend this meeting. Anyone who would like to attend the public hearing but has a disability which might require special materials, services, or assistance, should notify the Town Clerk at 256-352-5408 at least three days in advance of the public hearing.

Tim Eskew
Mayor

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Cullman is in the process of closing their FY23 Community Development Block Grant Project (CDBG Project #: LR-ED-PF-22-015 and ARC Project #: AL-21352). Funds from this grant were utilized by the City of Cullman to rehabilitate, reconstruct, and resurface County Road 222 from the intersection of the I-65 Exit 205 Interchange extending west to the Topre America metal stamping facility. As part of the close-out procedures the city will hold a public hearing on Friday, June 5, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at Cullman City Hall in the Council Chambers to discuss the close-out of this project and accept citizen input. Any citizen who would like to attend the public hearing, but has a disability which might require special materials, services, or assistance, should notify Wesley Moore at (256) 775-7109 at least three days in advance of the public hearing.

Woody Jacobs
Mayor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC TEST

State of Alabama
Cullman County
Probate Office Elections

TO: ALL CULLMAN COUNTY VOTERS

There will be a PUBLIC TEST held for the Precinct Ballot Counter for the Tuesday, June 16, 2026, Democrat and Republican Primary Runoff Election.

The public test will be held Wednesday, June 3, 2026, between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm at the Cullman County Court Referral Building, 2051 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

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

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Tuesday June 2, 2026, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Preliminary subdivision – Brock Trace Subdivision – County Road 1464 & County Road 1466

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

05/22/2026 3:40PM Tammy Brown Judge of Probate Cullman County, AL 1 Page(s)

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
BRENDA GAIL BATY,) Case Number: PC2026- 196
Deceased.)

NOTICE
PETITION FOR SUMMARY ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that a *Petition for Summary Administration* filed the 12th day of May, 2026, made court record the 14th day of May, 2026, by James Clinton May, Jr., Petitioner, and that thirty (30) days after the notice of publication hereof and pursuant to the law of the State of Alabama, the Court shall be requested to enter an order directing summary distribution of the estate of said decedent.

James Clinton May, Jr.
Petitioner

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

TO PUBLISHER:

Please publish the foregoing notice ONE TIME in said newspaper, and thereafter file with the Court a copy of the notice so published and an affidavit of publication.

DONE this the 22nd day of May, 2026.

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Hanceville shall cause this notice to be published stating that an alcoholic beverage license application for Azul Tequila Mexican Cantina, LLC will be considered by the Hanceville City Council at its next regular meeting to be held on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at Hanceville City Hall, 112 Main Street, S.E. Hanceville, Alabama.

At such time and place, said application shall be considered, and all interested persons may appear and be heard either for or against the application.

Done this ____ day of _____, 2026.
CITY OF HANCEVILLE
By: _____
Mayor Nolan Bradford

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

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

CULLMAN TOWING & RECOVERY INC
821 AL HIGHWAY 157
CULLMAN, AL 35058
NOTICE OF SALE

Abandoned vehicle sale Cullman Towing & Recovery Inc., 821 AL Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35058
In accordance with Motor Vehicle Code 32-13-1, the following vehicles may be sold at 821 AL Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35058,on Thursday, July 16, 2026 to the highest bidder for purpose of collecting fees against said vehicle. Any Questions Call 256-734-0433.

2014 Dodge Dart	1C3CDFBB9ED830158
2016 Freightliner M2	3ALACWDT7GDHT5148
2012 Toyota Prius	JTDKN3DU9C5434272

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
BELINDA KILGORE,) Case No. CV-2017-000060.00
an Incapacitated Person.)

NOTICE OF FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

YOU WILL TAKE NOTICE that Shelbie Hankey, as Conservator of the Estate of Belinda Kilgore, an Incapacitated Person, filed her account and vouchers for final settlement of said Estate on the 3rd day of March 2026, and that the 25th day of June, 2026, at 9:00 am was appointed to hear said settlement.

DONE this 10th day of March, 2026.
Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain, Circuit Clerk

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

Case# PC2023-390 PB MIN Book 243 Page 904 Recorded in Above Book and 05/22/2026 3:15PM Tammy Brown Judge of Probate Cullman County, AL 1 Page(s)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

TO: CARMEN STACY BARBER A.K.A. CARMEN STACEY BARBER and all known and unknown heirs of the estate of MARGARET E. McDUGALD, deceased.

The Petition of Pamela Dyer Pierce to admit to probate the Last Will and Testament of Floyd Dyer, deceased, has been set for hearing on the **27th day of August, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, Judge of Probate Office, Room 101.

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

Done this the 22nd day of May, 2026.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
TIMOTHY PHILLIPS, A.K.A.)
TIMOTHY LEE PHILLIPS and) CASE NO PC 2025-191
TIM PHILLIPS,)
Deceased.)

Case# PC2025-191 PB MIN Book 243 Page 916 Recorded in Above Book at 05/26/2026 1:17PM Tammy Brown Judge of Probate Cullman County, AL 1 Page(s)

NOTICE OF HEARING
APPLICATION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY

TO: LAUREN NICOLE PHILLIPS WILLIAMS and all known and unknown heirs of the estate of TIMOTHY PHILLIPS, A.K.A. TIMOTHY LEE PHILLIPS and TIM PHILLIPS, deceased.

The *Application to Sell Real Property* of Hanna Phillips Harper regarding the estate of Timothy Phillips, A.K.A. Timothy Lee Phillips and Tim Phillips, deceased has been set for hearing on the **28th day of July, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, Judge of Probate Office, Room 101.

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

Done this the 22nd day of May, 2026.
Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Ron M. Roberson and Brenda C Roberson in favor of Peoples Bank of Alabama, dated September 15, 2023, and recorded in Book 2063 starting at Page 96 on or about September 20, 2023 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama; the undersigned Peoples Bank of Alabama, as mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Cullman County Courthouse in the City of Cullman, Cullman County, Alabama, on June 18, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, all its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot 25 and 26 of Lakeshore West Subdivision, Phase II, as shown and known on the recorded plat thereof in Map Slide B-285-B, in the Probate Records of Cullman County, Alabama

The property address is: 55 County Rd 142, Crane Hill, AL 35053

THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBERANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED AS TO THE TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The mortgagee/transferee reserves the right to bid for and to purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the sale of the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

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.

Michael R. Lunsford
Attorney for Mortgagee
Porterfield, Harper, Mills, Motlow & Ireland, P.A.
22 Inverness Center Parkway, Suite 600
Birmingham, AL 35242
(205) 980-5000

Mortgagee
REI Funding Partners, LLC
730 Energy Center Blvd.
Suite 1402B
Northport, AL 35473

TO BE PUBLISHED: May 28, 2026, June 4, 2026, June 11, 2026.

Obituary Announcements: May 25-27

Evelyn Naomi Hunt, 95
Funeral Services for Evelyn Naomi McCombs Hunt, age 95 of Cullman, will be held at noon on May 29, 2026, at East Side Baptist Church. Burial to follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Gardendale, at approximately 3 p.m. with Kevin Wood officiating. Evelyn Naomi McCombs Hunt, though to the small circle who knew her first she would always be "Tootsie," slipped quietly through Heaven's gates on May 21, 2026. She had arrived in the world on Oct. 15, 1930, born to Evan and Pansy McCombs in Morris, Alabama. As the eldest of four children, she carried herself with a determined polish, as though excellence were not merely admired but expected. And so she pursued it everywhere: in spelling bees where words seemed to bloom effortlessly at her command, in school plays beneath hot auditorium lights, and on the annual staff where she served as Assistant Editor with the seriousness of a young woman already aware that details mattered. She was, by every account, brilliant. Her graduating class named her "Most Intelligent Girl," though the title hardly captured the breadth of her curiosity. Books followed her through every season in life. Even in her later years, novels and histories rose in careful stacks beside her chair, always topped with the most important book to her - the Bible. And, that favorite book of hers, was studied. It was not decorative in any way; it was weathered, penciled in, swollen from years of constant handling. During her senior year, at a church revival, she met the love of her life, Seburn. They dated for a year before he proposed in a manner so unmistakably his own that the story became family legend: he threatened to jump off a bridge if she refused him. Whether she accepted out of love or concern for his safety remained one of the household's favorite jokes. They were married on June 4, 1949, and from that day forward built a life stitched together with faith, laughter, children, and unwavering devotion. Together they raised four children — two sons, Ricky and Randy, and two daughters, Sharon and Teresa. Evelyn was the sort of mother who seemed to possess an endless reserve of gentleness. She never raised her voice. In the soft hours before school, she would stand at the stove gladly cooking whatever breakfast had been requested, never sighing, never hurrying anyone along. More than anything, she prayed for her children — over scraped knees and teenage heartaches, over marriages and careers and grandchildren not yet born. Prayer was as natural to her as breathing.And she was funny, too, though maybe not intentionally so. When life pinched at her patience, she would murmur phrases like "flitter on it," with such sincerity that it was impossible not to laugh. Hers was the kind of humor that arrived quietly and stayed with you.Her family grew large and joyful around her: fourteen grandchildren, each one convinced — with good reason — that they held a singular place in her heart. She would drive any distance for them without complaint - watching ball games and tennis matches, violin concerts and ballet recitals, and countless church programs. One grandchild once remarked that no matter who you were, she made you feel like the most important person in the world. It was true. Her attention was complete, undistracted, and warm in a way that has become increasingly rare. In time came twenty-four great-grandchildren, treasures she counted carefully and loved fiercely. She loved and treasured their visits, recounting to her friends and Sunday School class the funny things they would say. Yet above all earthly loves, her greatest devotion was to God. Faith was not a portion of her life; it was the thread woven through every part of it. She prayed constantly, taught Sunday school and Awana classes, served on committees too numerous to remember, and poured herself into her church with the quiet steadiness of someone who never sought recognition. She simply believed serving the Lord was what one did. In the final years of her life, she lived with her daughter Teresa and son-in-law Jock, in a home made lively by family coming and going. She loved life's simple treasures - handwritten cards, playing bowling on the Nex, Auburn football games with grandkids and great-grandkids, hymns even when sung slightly off-key, and sweets brought in by her son Rick and daughter-in-law Laura from the chocolate store. These small, ordinary moments — the kind that disappear while they are happening — became, in the end, the very fabric of a beautiful life. She would not want any grand to-do made about her. She would insist all glory belonged elsewhere. But still, those left behind may say this: Evelyn loved God above all things, and because of that, she loved people unusually well. We will miss her and will continually treasure her memory. Evelyn was preceded in death by her husband, Seburn; and her beloved granddaughter, Sonya. She leaves to cherish her memory her sons, Rick (Laura) Hunt and Randy (Sandra) Hunt; her daughters, Sharon (Steve) Mattison and Teresa (Jock) Leonard; her sister, Carolyn Silas; thirteen grandchildren and twenty-four great-grandchildren. Visitation to meet with family and friends will be held at East Side Baptist Church in Cullman, Alabama, on May 29, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. Funeral to follow at noon. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family.

Margaret L. Shelton, 87
Funeral service for Margaret L Pridmore. Shelton, 87, of Hanceville will be at 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Fairview West Cemetery, Bro. Kenneth Shelton and Bro. Mark Long officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from noon-2 p.m. on Tuesday. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Shelton passed from this life peacefully on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at her residence. She was born Dec. 4, 1938, to Amos J. and Lydia Ann Pridmore. Margaret was a member of Edgewood Baptist Church. She loved gospel singing and was a good singer for the Lord. She was preceded in death by her parents; four sisters; two brothers and a daughter-in-law. She is survived by her husband of 29 years, Rev. Gene Shelton; children, Brenda Pridmore, Thomas and Susie Pridmore, Dennis Pridmore, Michael Pridmore; four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, nieces, nephews and family and friends. Pallbearers will be Matthew Pridmore, Thomas Pridmore, Jr., Michael Long, Caleb Long, Colin Long, Kenny Shelton, honorary pallbearer, Don Rogers. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Harold Gregory Nail, 78
Harold Gregory Nail, age 78 of Cullman, passed away on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at his residence. He was born Aug. 4, 1947, Buford Edgar Nail and Adelia Nail. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Linda Nail Matthews and brother, Bobby Joe Nail. Survivors include his son, Jonathan Nail; sisters, Pam Nail and Deena (Bruce) Carden; niece, Christina Carden (Martin) Smith; nephew, Mitchell (Raquel) Carden.

Paul Willard Cole, 89
Paul Willard Cole, 89, of Hanceville passed away peacefully at home on May 20, 2026. He was born in Battleground on Jan. 30, 1937, to William Ransom Cole and Ruby Thomas Cole. He graduated from West Point High School in 1955 and later attended Cullman College. He worked for the U.S. Geological Survey for 41 years before retiring in 1998. Outside of work, he was a devoted husband to Joan, father, grandfather, and lifelong learner. He was an avid reader and enjoyed spending time outdoors and with his grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Joan Ballard Cole, sons Gary Randall Cole, Lyle Wade Cole, Lesley Paul Cole, and daughter-in-law Rebecca Procter Cole. He is survived by his son Mark Vann Cole, daughters-in-law Rebecca Denton Cole and Rhonda Isom Cole, grandchildren Elliott Cole, Robyn Rice, Catie Kilgore, Philip Cole, Tyler Cole, Rachel Egan, DeLana Clemons, Tanner Cole, and Falyn Cochran. He is also survived by seven great-grandchildren and a host of other extended family and friends who will miss him dearly. As a final expression of his generosity and inquisitive spirit, he chose to donate his body to UAB Medical School, so no funeral services will be held.

Joseph Anthony Giumarro II, 65
Joseph Anthony Giumarro II passed on May 21, 2026, at the age of 65. Born Dec. 15, 1960, in Providence, Massachusetts, Joseph resided in Hartselle, Alabama. Visitation was held at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055, on May 26, 2026, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. A Celebration of Life was held at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055, US, on May 26, 2026, from 3-4 p.m.

Donnie Wayne Echols, 68
Donnie Wayne Echols, age 68, of Hanceville, Alabama, passed away on May 23, 2026. Born on March 19, 1958, Donnie was born and raised in Hanceville, Alabama, where he built a life centered on faith, family, hard work, and community. Funeral service was Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Duck River Cemetery, Bro. Michael Talley and Bro. Keith Whitley officiating. The family received friends at the funeral home on Wednesday from noon-2 p.m. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making donations toward the expense of the funeral. Donnie was preceded in death by his father, Jimmy Echols, and his brothers, Ricky, Ronnie, and Keith Echols. He is survived by his loving mother, Faye Harris; his devoted wife, Lucretia Echols; his sons, Jeffery Echols, Matthew Terry, and Isaiah Reynolds; his daughters, Allesha Echols, Yvonne Rice, Taleatha Anderson, and Rachel Jones; his sister, Rena Williams; and 15 beloved grandchildren. He also leaves behind many extended family members and dear friends who will miss him deeply. Donnie was known as a hardworking man who dedicated over 20 years to the Cullman Street Department, helping maintain roads and sidewalks throughout the community. He was also a proud veteran of the United States Army. A man of many passions, Donnie especially loved his family and took great pride in them. He served as song director at Trinity Baptist Church for several years, sharing both his faith and his love of music with others. Donnie was also an avid Alabama football fan who enjoyed hunting and spending time with those he loved. Above all, Donnie will be remembered for the lasting impact he made on the lives of those around him through his kindness, dedication, faith, and love.

Mike Wiygul, 81
A memorial service for Mike Wiygul, age 81, of Locust Fork, will be at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, with Pastor Luther Williams, J.K. Baker, and Rob Coats officiating. Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Thursday at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, prior to the service. Mike passed away peacefully at home on May 20,2026, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on Friday, April 6, 1945, to Troy Allen Wiygul and Earlene Odom Wiygul. He was preceded in death by his; son, Kristopher Michael Wiygul; parents, Troy Allen Wiygul and Earlene Wiygul Clingan Black; brothers, Marshall Wiygul and Gary Wiygul. Survivors include his wife of fifty-six years, Susan Wiygul; daughter, Elisabeth Turner (Chris); granddaughter, Sophie Foster (Davey); brother, Larry Wiygul; and a host of family and friends. Mike will always be remembered as a man who loved to serve the Lord through bible studies and through prison ministries. He deeply loved his family and friends and was proud to serve his country. He was a loving husband, father and "Bapa" to those who loved him most. He was a man of bravery, wisdom, dignity and gratitude. He proudly and courageously served his country in the United States Army - sitting on the edge of a Huey helicopter as a door gunner in the Republic of Vietnam. After he served in the military, he built a career building homes in Tupelo, Mississippi, and in Birmingham, Alabama. He always enjoyed working outside and with his hands. Riding his Harley alongside his wife, Susan, brought him much happiness and they enjoyed many trips together from the East to West coast. But what thrilled Mike the most was keeping his granddaughter Sophie in her younger years and being there to watch her grow up. They developed such a close and special relationship and her "Bapa" gets a lot of credit for shaping her into who she is today. He will be dearly missed by those who knew and loved him.

Kevin Scott Puckett, Sr., 62
Kevin Scott Puckett Sr., age 62, of Cullman, passed away peacefully on May 25, 2026. He was born on April 29, 1964. Kevin was a devoted father, grandfather, and great-grandfather whose greatest joy in life was his family. He spent many years working as a truck driver, a career that reflected his hardworking spirit and dedication to providing for those he loved. Beyond his work, Kevin will be remembered for his larger-than-life personality, his sense of humor, and the love he poured into every moment spent with his children and grandchildren. He especially loved playing with his grandkids, making his children laugh, and listening to oldies music while singing along as loud as he could. Those memories will forever remain in the hearts of everyone who knew and loved him. Kevin is survived by his mother and father; his brother and sisters; his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; along with many other family members and friends who will deeply miss him. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, whom he loved dearly. In honoring Kevin's wishes, he donated his body to the Genesis Program of Science to help further education and research. The family will hold a Celebration of Life at a later date. "Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you." — John 16:22

Barbara Sue Miller, 82
Barbara Sue Sanders (Woodard) Miller, born Aug. 7, 1943, passed away peacefully at home on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026, with her husband Cecil by her side. Sue and Cecil's watchword for all their years together was, "The Best is yet to come!" And that was made true again Sunday morning as she reached that beautiful heavenly shore. Sue was the youngest of four children, born to James Harold Sanders, Jr. and Rubye Mae Oakes Sanders in Valhermosa Springs. She was preceded in death by both parents and her three beloved siblings and their spouses, Patsy Rae (Robin), Dora Woodard (Russell) and Wallace Sanders (Beth). Her husband of 17 years and father of her children, Walter Darrell Woodard, also preceded her in death as did her stepson Kevin Miller. She is survived by her husband of thirty-five years, Cecil Miller and her three children Nathan Woodard, Jaina Glaze (Phillip) and Hannah Brake, stepson Craig Miller (Brigitte), grandchildren Joshua Woodard, Colter Anderson, Bennett Brake, John Brake, Elizabeth Brake and great granddaughter Sage Woodard and a host of beloved cousins, nieces and nephews. She graduated as Miss Eva High School in 1961 and attended Florence State College, now the University of North Alabama. She raised her children in Cullman, Alabama where she was a lifelong member of the First Presbyterian Church. She was an avid cook and homemaker, winning Cullman County's Best Cook in 1992. After her husband's death in 1982, she ran Woodard's Fashions in downtown Cullman for a number of years and was a member of the Downtown Merchants' Association and the Cullman Chamber of Commerce. Sue raised her children camping cross-country in a 1972 Chevy VanDura, a former painter's van, converted into a camper. With a tent strapped to the top, the family traveled over two and a half weeks to the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, The Tetons, Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, Sequoia National Forest, Yosemite, gambled a little in Las Vegas, saw Crater Lake, Lake Mead, Hoover Dam, the Great Salt Lake, Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, traveled San Francisco's Lombard Street, "the crookedest street in the world," visited cousins Griffin and Howell in California and picked fruit in their orchards—blood oranges, among the most memorable. By 1982, Sue's children had visited 40 of the 50 states. Summers over the years were spent enjoying the family cabin at Smith Lake or spent with Cecil at their home swimming pool where everyone was always welcome. Sue was a competitive Everything—Rook player, Dominos, Easter Egg Hunter, Scrabble, Cooking, Spelling...even Bananagrams. She was Cullman County Senior Spelling Bee Champion in 2011, 2012, and 2014 and was the oldest female competitor in 2012. She and Cecil were 2017 State Champions in the Masters Games of Alabama in Rook; Cecil remembers they won state three times. In June 2024, Sue and Cecil won the Senior Rook Championship at the Athens Regional Competition. In July of 2024, they competed and won first place in the state-level Masters Game of Alabama in Rook. Sue and Cecil loved to entertain and spend time with family and friends in their lovely home where they decorated for every holiday: Snow Village at Christmas, Precious Bunnies for Easter, and bunting for Fourth of July swim parties. Sue made every birthday special and was always a wonderful hostess. The family is eternally grateful to the caregivers, neighbors, church members and friends who have tirelessly worked to keep Sue at home through these last years. Caroline Moody, Aleisha Roberson, Pam Kelly, and Connie Self—words cannot express our gratitude and love for these four in particular who served Mom with so much compassion and dedication day in and day out. We thank you. Funeral services will be held Saturday, May 30, 2026, at First Presbyterian Church in Cullman, AL (615 Third Avenue, SE; Cullman), First Presbyterian Cullman's Pastor Cherie Fancher officiating and Rev. Jaina Glaze assisting; Jeff Underberg serving as pianist/organist for the service. Visitation will be from noon to 1 p.m., with the service at 1 p.m.; burial following at Cullman City Cemetery. A treasured family reunion tradition is a hymn-sing around the piano; the family invites all our family and friends to join us in an impromptu choir to lead congregational songs during the service, Phillip Glaze directing.

Emiko Yamada Nomura, 91
Emiko Yamada Nomura, age 91, of Bremen, passed away at Cullman Regional Medical Center on Saturday, May 23, 2026. A private family graveside service will be held at Sandlin Cemetery at a later date. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Nomura was born on March 3, 1935, in Tokyo, Japan to Tokusaburo Yamada and Kane Tsuda Yamada. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, Orman Phillips; husband, Harry Nomura; son, Don A. Phillips. She is survived by son, George "Sandy" Phillips (Zelda); daughter, Connie Sue Phillips Day (Allen R.); grandchildren, Jon Phillips (Shannon), Emy Hogland, Angela Schaefers, Sandi O'Hair, and Joseph Kiyoshi Scott (Dae); eight great grandchildren; best friend of 70 years, Chiyako Starnes.

Irma Gene Panter, 97
Irma Gene Panter passed away peacefully on May 23, 2026, at Heritage Nursing Home in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Irma was born on Oct. 3, 1928, in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, to Claudia Herbert Johnson and Minnie Lee Hand Johnson. She grew up on her family's farm, where she developed a strong work ethic and a deep appreciation for family and simple living. Throughout her life, Irma was known for her dedication and hard work. She was employed at several local businesses, including the Cullman Cigar Plant, Stiefelmeyer's, and Watson's Department Stores, where she built lasting relationships and was respected by coworkers and customers alike. Irma was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, William Edward Johnson of Huntsville, Alabama; and her beloved husband, Edward Earl Panter. She is survived by her daughter, Wanda Gail Holmes; her sister-in-law, Shelby (Gloyd) Harris; her nephew, William Scott (Laynie) Johnson; and a host of nieces and nephews who will cherish her memory. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 29, 2026, at Etha Baptist Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Irma will be remembered for her quiet strength, her devotion to her family, and the legacy of love she leaves behind. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Brenda Powell, 77
Funeral service for Brenda Powell, age 77, of Cullman, is Friday, May 29, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, with Pastor Jacob Moody officiating. Visitation will be Thursday, May 28, 2026, from 6-8 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Burial will be at Oak Level Cemetery in Berlin. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Brenda was born on Oct. 11, 1948, to David Hendrix and Nelda Duke Hendrix. She passed away on Sunday, May 24, 2026, at UAB Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jim W. Powell; four brothers; three sisters. She is survived by two daughters, Tammy Quick and Brandy Cantrell (Kevin); grandchildren, Patrick Quick (Shana), Tiffany Caruana (V.J.), Emily Sweatman (Alex), Dustin Pierce (Brandy), Sawyer Pierce, Addie Cantrell, Dawson Cantrell; twelve great grandchildren; one great great grandchild; brothers, Anthony Hendrix (Susan), Andy Hendrix (Debbie), and Tim Hendrix (Brenda); a host of nieces and nephews, family and friends.

James Alfred Sloan, 83
James Alfred Sloan, age 83, passed away Saturday, May 23, 2026. He was born July 6, 1942, in Florence, Alabama to Raymond and Mattie Lou Sloan. He graduated from Mortimer Jordan High School. After high school, James served in the Army in the Philippines. Upon returning from the Army he began a 35 year career as a machinist at #1 Machine Shop at ACIPCO. Upon retirement he began traveling and enjoyed living in Fairhope, Gulf Shores, and Arizona. He settled in Fultondale, and has lived there until he passed. He was preceded in his death by his parents Raymond and Mattie Lou Sloan and brother, Charles Sloan. He is survived by wife, Elizabeth M. Sloan of over 25 years. He is survived by his brother Wayne (Shirley)Sloan. He is also survived by his children Sandra (Kevin) Parks, Marie (Doug) Moore, stepchildren Marbury Hendon, Edwin Eugene Lambert, and grandchildren, Dana Skipper (Tyler), Luke Parks, Douglas and Danilyn Moore, Christopher and Riley (Hannah) Hendon and great grandchildren Crosby, Alder, and Posey Skipper. Funeral services will be Friday, May 29 at 3 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will be prior to the service from 2-3 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home.

Max Blane Daniel, 70
Max Blane Daniel passed on May 23, 2026, at the age of 70, and was a resident of Cullman, Alabama. Max is survived by Debra Coffey; daughters, Chandra Mahler (Bailey) and Haley Hock (Richard); son, Hunter Daniel; and grandchildren, Kaylee Smith, Clay Mahler, Zeke Mahler, Peyton Hock, Lilli Hock, and Easton Hock. Max was preceded in death by father, Bobby Joe Daniel, and mother, Ann Chandler Smith. Visitation will be held at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055, US, on May 28, 2026, from noon-2 p.m., followed by a Celebration of Life at Moss-Service Funeral Home from 2-3 p.m., and a Committal Service at Cullman City Cemetery, Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055, US, from 3-4 p.m.

Mary Louise Jones, 73
Celebration of Life Service for Mary Louise Jones, age 73 of Vinemont, was at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at Honeycomb Free Holiness Church. Mrs. Jones passed away on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at her residence. She was born, May 31, 1952. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family.

Tasha Sue Baldwin, 32
Tasha Sue Baldwin, age 32, passed away on Tuesday, May 26, 2026. She was born, Dec. 22, 1993, to Richard Baldwin and Alice Baldwin. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Geneva and Frank Black and Betty and Jank Cox. Survivors include her son, Jalen Bradford; sisters, Jessica (Deke Wright) Baldwin, Jessie (Jesse) Priest and Angel Williams; brother, Dalton Baldwin; great granny, Beverly Carnes; nieces, Addyson and Isabella; nephews, Deegan, Donovan and Noah; uncles, Jesse and Paul Cox; and a host of other aunts, uncles, cousins, family and friends. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family.

Ella Ramona Harris, 91
Funeral services for Ella Ramona (Mona) Harris will be 3 p.m. Saturday May 30, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will be prior to the service from 2-3 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Ella Ramona (Mona) Harris went home to be with our Lord Jesus Christ on May 26, 2026. She was born April 1, 1935. She is preceded in death by her husband Jim Harris, and son Jamey Mars. She leaves behind a son Don Marrs, two daughters, Nina (Dan) King and Wendy (Perry) Schaffer, along with grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was a member of Fairview West Baptist Church for over 50 years; teaching all ages and singing in the choir. She was also an active member and held office in the DAV together with her husband Jim Harris. The family would like to thank all the dedicated staff at Southern Care Hospice, especially the nurses for the excellent care and kindness they showed our mother. Serving as pallbearers will be Perry Schaffer, Dan King, Daniel King Jr., Don Marrs, Chris Marrs, and J.J. Marrs. In lieu of flowers a donation to Fairview West Baptist Church will be appreciated.

Hubert Russell Walker, 87
With deep sorrow and profound love, we announce the passing of Hubert Walker, a devoted father, grandfather, husband, and friend. Hubert, 87, passed away on May 25, 2026, in Cullman, Alabama after surgical complications. He was born in Cullman, Alabama on April 18, 1939, to Asa Ree Walker and Eunice (Hays) Walker and spent his entire life in and around Holly Pond, Alabama. Hubert graduated from Holly Pond High School and worked in transportation for all of his working years. From driving an ambulance in Cullman's first ambulance service to delivering milk for Purity Dairy, his second home was always the road. He married Donna Kay Turner on June 2,1961 and together they raised two kids and spoiled four grandkids and four great-grandkids. Hubert was a member of New Hope #2 Baptist Church and enjoyed hunting, fishing, and cheering on several generations of his family at Holly Pond High School. Aside from Donna, the great love of his life was Atlanta Braves baseball, and we fully believe that his death falling just after the Braves' first home series loss of the season was no coincidence. Hubert was proceeded in death by his parents – Asa Ree Walker and Eunice Walker – wife – Donna Walker – and children – Russell Walker and Monica Ayers. He is survived by his grandchildren and great grandchildren: Nathan, Laney, Parker, and Walker Ayers; Maegan, Bruce, and Illa Russell; Aaron Ayers; and Eric and Alexis Walker, as well as his daughter-in-law, Donna (Jenkins) Walker and son-in-law, Gary Ayers. Family and friends are invited to gather on Thursday, May 28, at Holly Pond Funeral Home. His visitation will be from 10:30-11a.m. for family and 11 a.m.-noon for all others, followed by a funeral beginning at noon. Hubert will be buried at New Hope #2 Cemetery following services. Hubert's legacy of love will continue on in the lives of all who knew him. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to New Hope #2 Cemetery or to the Monica Walker Ayers Memorial Scholarship Fund. Obituary written with love by Mr. Walker's grandchildren. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Walker family.

Tony 'Hotdog' Morton, 65
Tony Lynn Morton, known by most as "Hotdog," passed from this life on Monday morning, May 25, 2026, at the age of 65. Tony was born in Marshall County, Alabama, on March 9, 1961, to the late John Quincey and Betty Jean Tucker Morton. As a young man, Tony played both football and softball where his incredible speed and athletic abilities were showcased, earning him the nickname "Hotdog." Tony enjoyed mentoring and supporting his adopted boys, the Mountain Brook Spartans Football Team, where he continued to use the athletic gifts that God blessed him with. Tony also enjoyed NASCAR, deer hunting, and vacationing in the mountains, but his happy place was the beach. In December 1986, Mr. Morton met the love of his life, Joann, at a gas station. The two dated a couple of months and both knew they had found their person. After a yearlong engagement, Joann and Tony married and have been married for thirty-eight years. Together they raised a son, Cheston, and celebrated the arrival of their grandchildren, Jessey, Brylea, and Wrenleigh, all of whom they have spoiled and adored. As in all marriages, there have been seasons of both heartache and celebration, but through it all their love has remained steadfast. Mr. Morton was a member of Redan Missionary Baptist Church, and he worked for thirty-two years a Chemical Inspector for Copeland Compressor Company in Hartselle, Alabama, where he made many lasting friendships. Tony is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his beloved wife, Joann Morton; son, Cheston Morton; grandchildren, Jessey Morton, Brylea Morton, Wrenleigh Lacey; aunt and uncle, Sue and Raymond Hayes; siblings, Myrtle Wilbert (George), Calvin Johnson (Annette), Donnie Roden (Betty), Nathan Morton, Margaret Eddie (Bill), Dale Morton; his adopted boys; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. Friends are invited to join the Morton family for a time of visitation on Friday evening, May 29, 2026, at Redan Missionary Baptist Church, from 6-8 p.m. Tony will lie in state on Saturday, May 30, 2026, at the church, from 2 p.m. until services begin at 3 p.m., where Dr. David Chambers will officiate alongside Chris Yeager and David Stancil. Following services, Tony will be laid to rest in the adjoining cemetery where his nephews, Michael Rogers, Kai Rogers, Dylan Morton, Marcus Johnson, Jason Thomas, Dale Ray Morton and Jamas Wilbert have the honor of serving as pallbearers. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Morton family.

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NWS Huntsville confirms EF-1 tornado impacted Holly Pond, Baileyton May 22

Chasady Woods
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HOLLY POND, Ala. — The National Weather Service Huntsville confirmed a EF-1 tornado impacted the Holly Pond and Baileyton area on Friday, May 22, 2026.

The storms were expected to bring a low risk of strong to severe weather, though several damage reports from residents in the area proved otherwise.

A video from Hannah Chambers, of the Holly Pond area, began to make traction online. (www.facebook.com/share/v/14YPWf47Y9G/)

The video shows a heavy downpour, which is not uncommon in Alabama in the summer months.

As the video shifts to the left a funnel is seen rotating beyond nearby trees.

The Chambers family was unaffected, though some Holly Pond residents faced major damage.

NWS Huntsville reported the tornado reached wind speeds up to 107 miles per hour between 12:57-1:14 p.m. It initially formed in Holly Pond and traveled 8.7 miles northeast, making a short turn northwest at the intersection Alabama Highways 69 and 67 before coming to an end just before entering Joppa.

There have been no reports of injuries, but several residents are facing structural damages and more.

We will update the public on any clean-up efforts and means to help local families.



Crash (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Two people were killed in a single-vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 9:40 p.m. Tuesday, May 26, on Interstate 65 in Cullman County.

Alabama State Troopers said Kristen B. Rogers, 35, of Florence, was fatally injured when the 2012 Cadillac SRX she was driving left the roadway, struck a cable barrier and overturned. Danny W. Robinson, 41, of Lexington, who was a passenger in the Cadillac, was also fatally injured.

Troopers said the victims were not using seat belts at the time of crash; they were ejected and pronounced deceased at the scene. The crash occurred on Interstate 65 near Alabama Highway 69, approximately 2 miles southeast of Dodge City, in Cullman County.

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

Sale (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — St. Paul's Lutheran Church, through its Evangelism Committee, will host a free yard sale on Saturday, June 6, beginning at 8 a.m.

The event is intended to serve the community by providing clothing and household items at no cost. Community members are invited to come browse available items and take what they need in a welcoming environment.

"This effort is rooted in the love Christ has shown to us and the calling to share that love with others. As Scripture reminds us, 'We love because He first loved us' (1 John 4:19). Through simple acts of care, St. Paul's hopes to create opportunities to connect with neighbors and serve those around us."

Individuals and families throughout the community are encouraged to attend and take part in this day of fellowship and service.

For additional information about St. Paul's Lutheran Church and its ministries, please contact the church office at 256-734-3575.

