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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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Cullman City Council imposes temporary moratorium on data centers

Chasady Woods
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CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council at its meeting on Monday, June 22, adopted a temporary moratorium on data centers.

What is a data center?

According to The Brookings Institution:

"Data centers host a large number of file servers and networking equipment that can store, process, and analyze text, images, code, and other information sources. Guided by large language models (LLMs) and machine learning, data centers can parse through these materials and act autonomously upon the derived insights. The applications that are hosted at these facilities can summarize text, edit photos or videos, examine data, code software, and perform many administrative and financial tasks in real time. These applications offer tremendous convenience, efficiency, and effectiveness to consumers, businesses, and governments.

"'Hyperscale' data centers typically have more than 5,000 file servers within their facilities and can » PAGE 2

Paige Adams case enters pretrial stage after resignation, arrest and 32-count indictment



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Former Cold Springs High School Girls' Head Basketball Coach Paige Adams

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — What began as an internal school system complaint involving then-Cold Springs High School teacher and head girls' basketball coach Paige Parker Adams has become a 32-count criminal case, a pending constitutional challenge and a closely watched pretrial fight over how Alabama's school employee sex offense statutes apply under the facts alleged.

Adams, 35, is charged in Cullman County Circuit Court with one count of school employee engaging in a sex act with a student, a Class B felony; one count of school employee engaging in sexual contact with a student, a Class C felony; and 30 counts of distributing or soliciting obscene material to or from a student, each a Class A misdemeanor, according to court records.

Adams has pleaded not guilty. All charges are allegations. She is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in court.

The case is pending before Circuit Judge Emily N. Johnston under case number CC-2026-000182.00.

The resignation

The case first became public March 25, when » PAGE 5

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LOCAL EATS

Country Wok is Hanceville's go-to Chinese spot



EMILY MCMUNN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Country Wok Owner Kenny Lee » PAGE 5

Cullman City Council addresses nuisance properties

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Hanceville Fire & Rescue hosting next CPAT July 3

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PET OF THE WEEK

Sylvia is a tiny tuxedo court jester



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Sylvia » PAGE 4



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported June 24

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported June 24, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

June 22

- fail to return a vehicle for hire; McCurry Van & Car Rental
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; theft of property-2nd degree; person; pistol; $250; Greenbrier Dr. SW

June 23

- identity theft; person

ARRESTS

June 22

Bartlett, Ashley N.; 36

- retail theft of property-1st degree
- theft of property-3rd degree

Maddox, Jr., James D.; 45

- FTA – driving while revoked (2 counts)
- FTA – switched tag

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Hanceville Fire & Rescue hosting next CPAT July 3

Emily McMunn
emily@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Want to become a firefighter? The Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) course is your first step. Hanceville Fire & Rescue is a testing site, and will hold its next CPAT test Friday, July 3. Sign-in starts at 7:30 a.m., with orientation beginning at 8. No preregistration is required.

Prospects must pass the CPAT in order to become a firefighter. According to the Alabama Fire College, "As prescribed by the Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards and Education Commission (AFC & PSEC), job-related physical performance requirements shall be used to select inherently physically capable individuals to be trained as fire fighters.

Therefore, the firefighter candidate shall successfully complete the IAFF/IAFC Fire Service Joint Labor Management Wellness/Fitness Initiative Program-Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) prior to entering a minimum standards course for Fire Fighter I/II, Fire Fighter I/II Bridge, and Fire Fighter I Recertification (based on initial FFI requirements)."

Candidates must complete a total of eight events: stair climb, hose drag, equipment carry, ladder raise and extension, forcible entry, search, rescue and, lastly, ceiling breach and pull.

On the day of the test, the fire department is asking all candidates to have long pants and-closed toe shoes.

It is also recommended to bring your own (mechanic) gloves.

For a more in-depth look at CPAT, visit www.alabamafirecollege.org/courses-aining/student-resources/cpat.

The fire department is located at119 Collins Ave, Hanceville. The entry fee for the test is $60. Cash, debit/credit card or a check from your department or municipality will be excepted.

Get more details at Facebook/Hanceville Fire & Rescue CPAT course.

Moratorium (from Front)

house equipment utilized by many different organizations. With the large-scale growth of generative AI, there is tremendous reliance on data centers that process information quickly and with low latency to enable the use of a wide range of AI services and agents."

The council adopted Resolution No. 2026-116 to impose a temporary moratorium on "the acceptance, processing, and approval of applications for the development, construction, expansion, or operation of data centers within the corporate limits of the city of Cullman."

The resolution reads, in part:

WHEREAS, the City of Cullman, Alabama, is committed to protecting the public health, safety, morals, and general welfare of its residents, preserving the City's unique character as a community with German heritage founded in 1873, and promoting orderly and sustainable growth consistent with its comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, data centers are large-scale industrial-style facilities primarily dedicated to the storage, processing, and transmission of digital data, typically involving extensive server equipment, significant electrical power demands, water usage for cooling, backup generators, noise from cooling systems, increased traffic, and demands on municipal infrastructure such as electricity, water, and wastewater systems; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the rapid emergence and potential proliferation of such facilities require careful study of their compatibility with the City's existing zoning districts, infrastructure capacity, environmental resources, residential quality of life, and long-term economic development goals; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to municipalities under Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975 (including Sections 11-52-70 et seq. and related provisions governing zoning and land use regulation), the City has the power to regulate land uses and impose temporary moratoria to allow time for comprehensive planning, zoning amendments, and impact studies; and

WHEREAS, neighboring Alabama municipalities, including the City of Birmingham (which has implemented a six-month moratorium) and the City of Leeds (which has implemented a one-year moratorium), have recently taken similar actions to study data center impacts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to impose a temporary moratorium to pause new data center-related applications while the Planning Commission, City staff, and consultants conduct necessary reviews, public engagement, and potential updates to the Zoning Ordinance and other relevant regulations; and

WHEREAS, this moratorium is intended to be temporary, uniform in application, and not directed at any specific project or property in a manner constituting spot zoning

The city is not alone in its action. According to the Associated Press, "Political and local opposition has been growing because of fears about blackouts, rising electricity bills and the centers' voracious water needs. Some states are suspending tax breaks or considering moratoriums on data center construction."

They went on to address Ordinance No. 2026-42, which would prohibit the development and operation of data centers in city limits. No action was taken since the council will need to refer to the Cullman City Planning Commission on the ordinance.

The city council noted that prohibiting data centers will help provide the best quality of life for residents, proper infrastructure capacity, local resources, planned uses, conserve property values and support sustainable economic development aligned with the city's priorities.



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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
- 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
- 256-739-3326
- spiritlifechurchcullman@gmail.com
- FB-Spirit Life Church Cullman
- Friday, June 26 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided. Special guest – The Lovelady Center
- Sunday, June 28 – 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, June 26, 6 p.m. Poetry Night
- 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
- Saturday, July 18, 11 a.m. Teen Club
- Wednesday, July 22, 10 a.m. "Lasting Impressions- Fossils-artifacts" by Chris & Jake, AL State Museum, Montgomery
- Wednesday, July 29, 10 a.m. "Quest to the Core" McWane Science Center
- Friday, July 31, 6 p.m. Poetry Night
- Wednesday, Aug. 5, 10 a.m. Children's author Ernie Swindle (bringing Matilda the Donkey for petting, located in the back parking lot)
- Friday, Aug. 7, 10 a.m. "Larry the Magician" a happy, interactive program full of laughter. This is his last season performing; he is retiring after this summer.
- Wednesday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. Storytime Cullman Extension 4-H Kerri Roberts
- Saturday, Aug. 15, 10 a.m. Adult book club
- Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m., Crochet class

Guy Hunt Library Summer Reading Program
- Make plans to join us at Guy Hunt Library in Holly Pond on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. for the Summer Reading Program!
- June 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.

Phillips-Compton Reunion
Saturday, June 27, beginning at 10 a.m. Descendants of John Marion Phillips and Frances Compton Phillips and related families will meet at the Brushy Pond Community Center. Covered dish lunch at noon. From Bremen, travel on County Road 222 to Ryans Creek Baptist Church. Turn right next to the church and travel a short distance to the center, which is next to the fire station. Call 256-709-4956 for additional information.

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.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Summer Revival
Sunday, July 5, at 5 p.m. Singing with Refined as our guest. Services will run day and night, Monday, July 6, through Friday, July 10. Morning services at 10:30 and evening services at 7 with preachers from our church preaching. Lunch will be served each day after the morning service and we will have a prayer room at 6:45 before each evening service. All are invited. If you can't come, please pray for us. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278 East approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information, call 256-339-1862 or 256-590-1501.

Annual David Speegle Family Reunion
Sunday, July 12, 2026, at the Speegle Family Point (334 County Rd 321, Crane Hill, AL 35053) beginning around 10:30 a.m. Please join us and bring a covered dish for lunch at noon. Contact Judy Shannon (256-338-0676) or Terry Phillips (256-656-3327) if you need additional information. Come eat and enjoy the day with us at the beautiful Speegle Family Point.

Little Pink Dress Benefit
Tuesday, Oct. 6, from 6-9 p.m. at The Venue at Stone Bridge Farms. Tickets on sale now! www.cullmanbosombuddies.com/service/little-pink-dress-event

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JUNE 25, 2026

Cullman City's tennis complex renovation 'a game-changer' for the Bearcat tennis program

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman High School's sports complex is due to receive a major upgrade soon.

Cullman City schools announced last week that in their June Board of Education meeting, the district approved a $500,000 dollar reallocation to support the City of Cullman's renovation to the Cullman Tennis Complex located on Stadium Drive NE.

According to Cullman High's tennis coach, Nathan Bates, the renovation will include a complete replacement of the six current courts, while adding two new ones, as well.

In addition to updated lighting, a new tennis building will also be built, with the upgrades aiming to make the complex suited for school athletics, physical education activities, community programming and regional events.

"Our players and coaches are extremely excited about the renovation of the tennis facility. This project has been in the works for quite some time, and making it a reality required collaboration between the City of Cullman, Cullman Parks & Recreation, and Cullman City Schools. I believe this project is a great example of our school system and city government working together to provide the best possible opportunities and facilities for both our students and our community," Bates said.

The announcement comes after a 2026 season that saw a surging Cullman High School tennis program under Bates make Sectionals in both the boys and girls division.

The boys team finished as the sixth overall team in Class 6A, and finished the year 16-2 and as 6A, Section 7 runner-ups.

With a brand new facility, that momentum just picked up even more.

"This project is a game-changer for our tennis program. It will provide our team and community with a facility we can all take pride in. The addition of two courts creates opportunities to host events and tournaments that were not feasible with only six courts. From a day-to-day standpoint, the increased court space means fewer players per court during practice, allowing for more repetitions and more individualized development. It will also enable us to use traditional scoring formats during home matches, which further enhances the competitive experience and player growth," said the Bearcats' coach.

The timeline for the project is unclear at the moment, but Cullman High's tennis teams will return to action in February of 2027.



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

CPRST and Cullman High's Tennis Complex

Seven local high schools earn AHSAA Sportsmanship Award for 2025-26 school year

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Alabama High School Athletics Association announced Wednesday the 94 schools that were selected for the 2025-26 Sportsmanship Award on Wednesday. The award is presented to schools that went the entire 2025-26 athletics year without recording a single ejection across all sports.

"We are extremely proud of the emphasis placed on sportsmanship with AHSAA member schools," said Executive Director Heath Harmon in a press release. He added, "While we are not perfect, we continue to strive to provide a sportsmanship model we all can be proud of."

Local schools that were honored are listed below, along with how many years they've been named:

- 1A Cullman Christian, two years
- 1A Meek High School, six years
- 1A St. Bernard Prep,
- 2A Cold Springs High School, 10 years
- 3A Hanceville High School, five years
- 3A Holly Pond High School, 11 years
- 3A Vinemont High School, eight years

The AHSAA plans to formally recognize the principal and athletic directors of all awarded schools with a luncheon on July 24 during the 30th annual Summer Conference at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center. Additionally, ten of the schools will receive a $1,000 dollar grant presented by the Alabama High School Athletic Directors and Coaches Association.

Around the world of sports: June 25, 2026

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

- The first round of the 2026 NBA Draft took place Tuesday night. Former UAB forward Yaxel Lendeborg was selected 11th overall by the Golden State Warriors and Alabama guard Labaron Philon Jr. went 22nd to the Philadelphia 76ers.
- The NFL announced in a letter to former Texas Tech quarterback Brendan Sorsby, who was declared ineligible by the NCAA for placing bets on his own team while with Indiana, that they would not hold a supplemental draft, citing a lack of accountability and proper application.
- The Miami Heat made a blockbuster trade to acquire NBA superstar Giannis Antetokounmpo from Milwaukee earlier this week, after over a year of a rumored rift growing between the forward and the Bucks' front office.



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Former Alabama guard Labaron Philon Jr., who was drafted 22nd overall by the Philadelphia 76ers on Tuesday night

Sylvia (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Meet Sylvia, an approximately 3-month-old domestic shorthair tuxedo kitten with personality-plus. She's The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

Around the shelter, she is known as the court jester, always ready to entertain, explore and bring a little laughter into the room.

Do not let her playful side fool you, though. Sylvia is also a true cuddlebug.

She melts in your arms, loves being held and has the sweet, gentle nature of a kitten made for companionship.

Sylvia has many kitty friends and enjoys spending time with them, but her favorite toy remains the cat tower.

She is smart, curious and blessed with an inquisitive mind that keeps her busy learning, climbing and investigating the world around her.

With her loving personality and affectionate spirit, Sylvia is, hands down, the quintessential therapy/companion kitty.

Her adoption fee is $100, which includes spay, rabies shot, microchip, vaccinations and dewormer.

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.

Please feel free to stop by the shelter to meet Sylvia; however, if she has already been adopted, she encourages everyone to visit with the other pets waiting for their forever homes.





LOCAL EATS

Country Wok is Hanceville's go-to Chinese spot

Emily McMunn
emily@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Country Wok Owner Kenny Lee was a soldier in the United States Army. Being deployed to Iraq gave him the opportunity to explore a different way of life, including indulging in street food culture. After his military service he enrolled at the French Culinary Institute in New York City, where he perfected his culinary craft. Drawn in by Southern culture, Lee said, he found himself in Alabama with his family. They purchased a farm, raising livestock.

I asked Lee what inspired him to get into the culinary scene.

"I've always liked eating, and I watched the Food Network all the time growing up," said Lee, who mentioned he was very curious as to what his mother and grandmother were getting up to in the kitchen.

He said when he got back home from Iraq his uncle took him to an expensive restaurant.

"At the time I was kind of embarrassed; here I was in this fancy restaurant wearing jeans and a T-shirt," said Lee, who shared he was very impressed with the staff. "They went into professional mode, and all I remember is how comfortable they made me feel. It was a very clean, formal restaurant, but I felt like I was at home and I was not nervous at all. And that's what made me realize: I want to be a part of this."

Lee told me he doesn't eat out very often; however, when he did he was left feeling unsatisfied – all he really wanted was his grandmother's fried rice. "I'd take a bite and I'd just think, 'This is not my grandmother's fried rice. I think I can do a little bit better.'"

He wanted to bring good food to good people. "Let's give people some good food, honest food, respectful food." He said the most important thing about his restaurant is respect, and this effort is already underway in the community he now calls home.

Lee said he was lucky to find the building for the restaurant. He said, "For me, the building was perfect; it already had a great setup for a kitchen. I like having an open kitchen so people can see how their food is being prepared."

So far, Country Wok favorites are Eggrolls and Korean Fried Wings, which he said took him three months to prefect. Lee stated that the eggroll was a real team effort and that's why it's his favorite. You can also find Mapo Tofu, Mongolian Beef, Xianjiang-Style Chicken Skewers and, of course, Grandma's Cantonese Fried Rice.

When it comes to ingredients, Lee said, he tries to source locally as much as he can from Alabama and other Southern states. "I use wild-caught Gulf shrimp, I use Golden Eagle brand syrup in our sauces. That's a local favorite." He sources his mushrooms from Georgia and North Carolina when the opportunity presents itself.

As for the menu, Lee said he plans to keep it compact so as to not overwhelm his customers or his staff. "I might do weekly specials," he stated, "but I also want to make sure that my team isn't overwhelmed; we always want to execute well." He said for now he will stick to just changing a menu item 2-3 times every three months and having about 25 menu items to choose from.

Orders can be placed online at www.countrywok.com,through Doordash or by calling 256-887-1360. Catering is also available on the Country Wok website.

If you're looking for a quiet place to rest and eat, find Country Wok in historic downtown Hanceville at 107 Bangor Ave., Ste. A. It's open Tuesday-Saturday, from 11 a.m.- 7 p.m.



EMILY MCMUNN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Country Wok Owner Kenny Lee

Adams (from Front)

the Cullman County Board of Education accepted Adams' resignation during a special-called meeting.

At the time, Adams had just completed her first season as head coach of the Cold Springs Lady Eagles basketball program. The team reached the Final Four under Adams.

Cullman County Schools said in a statement after the meeting that the board had accepted and approved Adams' resignation from her employment at Cold Springs High School.

The following day, Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette said the resignation followed a formal complaint.

"This is the first formal complaint I have received regarding this employee. As soon as the concern was brought forward, an investigation was immediately initiated. The employee chose to resign at that time. In accordance with standard procedure, all CCBOE materials were returned, and she was escorted from school property. The matter has been referred to the appropriate authorities, and I promptly called a board meeting to approve her resignation," Barnette said at the time.

"Our sole focus is protecting the students of Cullman County Schools. We are going to do what is right, as we always have."

Barnette later told The Tribune the school system was still reviewing the situation internally when Adams resigned.

"When suspicions arose, we began an internal investigation, and the teacher resigned," Barnette said. "At that point, the matter was turned over to authorities."

Barnette said there was no argument or altercation when Adams left the school.

"There was no argument or altercation," Barnette said. "She was aware that the investigation was continuing."

Barnette said standard procedures were followed after the resignation, including the return of school property.

"When any employee resigns, they are required to turn in all school property, including badges, keys and access materials," Barnette said. "She no longer has access to any school facilities."

At the time, Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry also confirmed the matter was under investigation.

"We have been made aware of the recent resignation of a Cullman County school employee. The circumstances surrounding the resignation are under investigation. We will consult the Cullman County District Attorney's Office and will provide more information at the appropriate time," Gentry said.

No charges had been announced when the resignation became public.

The indictment and arrest

The case moved into the court system in April.

A Cullman County grand jury returned an indictment April 17. A warrant was issued April 20. Adams was arrested April 21. Court records list her bond at $225,000 property bond.

The indictment charges Adams with 32 counts.

Count 1 alleges that, on or about Feb. 23, 2026, Adams, while employed by the Cullman County Board of Education, engaged in sexual intercourse or sodomy with a student under the age of 19.

Count 2 alleges that, on or about Feb. 23, 2026, Adams, while employed by the Cullman County Board of Education, engaged in sexual contact with a student under the age of 19.

Counts 3-32 allege distributing or soliciting obscene material to or from a student. The dates listed in those counts range from Feb. 13 through March 16.

The public court records reviewed by The Tribune do not identify the student.

Adams' case was filed in Cullman County Circuit Court on April 22. Court records show the case was assigned to Johnston. Defense attorneys Trent Lowry and Jeremy Cline entered appearances in late April.

The plea and pretrial schedule

On May 22, the court entered an order noting Adams, through counsel, had filed a written waiver of arraignment and pleaded not guilty.

The court granted discovery under Rule 16 of the Alabama Rules of Criminal Procedure and set a status review for Sept. 16, at 9 a.m.

No trial date has been set in the court documents reviewed by The Tribune.

The defense motion to dismiss

Before the not-guilty plea was formally entered by the court, Adams' attorneys filed a motion May 21 asking Johnston to dismiss the indictment and declare Alabama Code sections 13A-6-81, 13A-6-82(a) and 13A-6-82.1(a)(2) unconstitutional as applied to the facts of the case.

The defense does not argue that the statutes are always unconstitutional. Instead, the motion argues the statutes are unconstitutional as applied to Adams under the specific facts alleged.

According to the defense motion, Adams was employed as a teacher at Cold Springs High School in the Cullman County Schools system. The motion states the alleged victim was 18 and was a student at another high school in the same school system.

The defense argues Adams was never employed at the school the alleged victim attended and was never in a position of educational or scholastic extracurricular authority over the alleged victim.

The defense motion states that, as charged and as applied, the statutes violate the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The motion cites Lawrence v. Texas and Alabama appellate cases involving school employee sexual offense statutes.

"The Defendant's argument is not that the statutes are always unconstitutional; it is that, under these particular circumstances, the statutes operate unconstitutionally because they reach beyond the State's legitimate interest in preventing exploitation by those 'holding positions of authority or influence at a school' over students," the motion states.

The defense asks the court to dismiss the indictment.

Those claims are defense arguments. The court has not ruled on them.

The court has set a briefing schedule on the motion. The state must file any written response by July 22. The defense may file any reply by July 29. A hearing on the motion is set for Aug. 12, at 2:30 p.m.

The state's 404(b) notice

The state has also filed notice that it intends to seek permission to use additional evidence under Alabama Rule of Evidence 404(b).

Rule 404(b) generally concerns evidence of other alleged acts or wrongs that prosecutors may seek to introduce for limited purposes, such as motive, intent, plan, knowledge, absence of mistake or pattern. Such a notice does not mean the court has admitted the evidence, and it does not mean the allegations have been proven.

In the May 29 filing, District Attorney Champ Crocker said the state intends to introduce evidence for limited purposes under Rule 404(b), including motive, intent, plan, knowledge, absence of mistake or pattern.

In the filing, prosecutors allege Adams "groomed the victim in this case by showering her with money and gifts over a 10 month period."

The state alleges that between May 16, 2025, and March 24, 2026, Adams sent the alleged victim $3,620 through Cash App. Prosecutors said some of the transactions included descriptions such as heart emojis, smiling emojis, "lunch on me," "coffee" and "shoes."

The filing also alleges Adams paid for the alleged victim to accompany her to concerts, restaurants and overnight hotel stays.

The state's filing also references an alleged 2024 incident involving another female, identified in the filing as Jane Doe #1. Prosecutors allege Cullman police responded to a civil disturbance at McDonald's on Aug. 14, 2024, involving Adams and the other woman.

According to the state's filing, Adams told police the two were "only friends," while the other woman reported they were involved in a sexual or dating relationship.

The state further alleges Adams later followed the woman home after the two were separated. The filing alleges the woman called 911 and Adams left before police arrived.

Those statements are allegations contained in the state's court filing. They are not findings by the court.

The sexual motivation filing

The state also filed an allegation of sexual motivation under Alabama Code 15-20A-6.

In that filing, prosecutors state that sufficient admissible evidence exists that would justify a finding of sexual motivation by a reasonable and objective jury. The state asks that, upon any conviction, the jury return a special verdict on whether Adams committed the acts with sexual motivation.

That filing is also an allegation. No jury has made such a finding.

Where the case stands now

The next major step in the case is Adams' motion to dismiss.

The state's response is due July 22. The defense reply is due July 29. The hearing is set for Aug. 12, at 2:30 p.m.

A separate status review remains set for Sept. 16, at 9 a.m.

The case now turns on two tracks. Prosecutors are pursuing the 32-count indictment and have filed notice of additional evidence they intend to seek permission to use. The defense is challenging whether the statutes can constitutionally be applied under the facts it says are present in this case, including the alleged victim's age and the defense claim that Adams worked at a different school and had no educational or extracurricular authority over the alleged victim.

The Tribune has requested comment from Adams' attorneys and the Cullman County District Attorney's Office. This story will be updated if responses are received.

TIMELINE

March 25: The Cullman County Board of Education accepts Adams' resignation during a special-called meeting.

March 26: Cullman County Schools confirms the resignation followed a formal complaint and says the matter has been referred to authorities. Sheriff Matt Gentry confirms the circumstances surrounding the resignation are under investigation.

April 17: A Cullman County grand jury returns an indictment against Adams.

April 20: A warrant is issued. Bond is set at $225,000 property bond.

April 21: Adams is arrested.

April 22: The case is filed in Cullman County Circuit Court and assigned to Johnston.

Late April: Defense attorneys enter appearances.

May 21: The defense files a motion to dismiss the indictment and to declare the statutes unconstitutional as applied.

May 22: The court enters an order noting Adams has waived arraignment and pleaded not guilty. Discovery is granted. A Sept. 16 status review is set.

May 26: The court orders additional briefing and oral argument on the defense motion to dismiss. The hearing is set for Aug. 12.

May 29: The state files notice of intent to use 404(b) evidence and files an allegation of sexual motivation.

July 22: The state's written response to the motion to dismiss is due.

July 29: The defense reply is due.

Aug. 12: Hearing on the motion to dismiss is set for 2:30 p.m.

Sept. 16: Status review is set for 9 a.m.

For Cullman County Schools, the case began as an internal concern, an immediate investigation and a resignation. For law enforcement and prosecutors, it became a 32-count criminal case. For the defense, it is now a constitutional challenge to how Alabama's school employee sex offense statutes apply under the facts alleged.

For now, Adams remains charged, on bond, presumed innocent and awaiting the court's next ruling.

LEGALS

Notice of Completion

Newell, Park, & Eleazer Construction, LLC hereby gives notice that all work has been completed in accordance with their contract for the City of Cullman – ARC Aviation Training Airport Hangar Project (AL-21878-2024). Anyone or company that has provided labor or materials on the said project that has not been paid in full or anyone that has a construction/property restoration claim should contact the following. Wesley Moore, City of Cullman, City Clerk at 256-775-7110 or at Cullman City Hall, 204 2nd Avenue, NE, Cullman, Alabama 30555 within the next thirty days.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY

STATE OF ALABAMA
CULLMAN COUNTY

CASE NO.: PC 2026-223

IN THE MATTER OF:
I.B.C.
A minor child, D.O.B.: 09/19/2017.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

TO: TO ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN FATHER OF I.B.C., a minor child.

A PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF A MINOR CHILD WAS FILED IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA BY HAILEY A. SMALLS. IF YOU SHOULD CONTEST THIS NAME CHANGE, YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE LAST NOTICE OF PUBLICATION. YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE FILED WITH COUNSEL FOR SAID PETITIONER, WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS IS SHOWN BELOW, AND WITH THE CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, POST OFFICE BOX 970, CULLMAN, ALABAMA 35056.

DONE THIS 23rd DAY OF June, 2026.

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

ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER
Attorney for Petitioner
PARKER AND PARKER, P.C. ATTORNEYS
215 Main Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055
(256)775-4444

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, will hold a public hearing on July 20, 2026 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Lucille N. Galin Auditorium at City Hall, 204 Second Avenue NE, Cullman, Alabama 35055. At this time, anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-39 (set forth in full below) will be given an opportunity to speak. - Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 39

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AMENDING CHAPTER 62, ARTICLE II OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN BY ADOPTING A NEW SECTION 62-38 REGARDING FENCES AND WALLS

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Cullman, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1. Findings and Purpose.

The City Council finds that clear, enforceable standards for the construction, maintenance, and appearance of fences and walls are necessary to protect public safety, preserve property values, ensure aesthetic consistency, and promote the general welfare of the citizens of Cullman. This amendment updates and clarifies the regulations governing fences and walls.

Section 2. Amendment.

Section 62-38 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cullman, Alabama, is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Sec. 62-38. Fences and walls.

"Fence" means any structure, barrier, or partition that encloses, divides, or borders property.

"Wall" means any structure or barrier that creates an enclosure, division, or border of property.

A building permit shall be obtained prior to the erection, placement, or repair of any fence or wall.

Fences and walls shall be constructed in a uniform and consistent style and shall be composed of materials manufactured, designed, and intended for such purposes.

Fences and walls shall not include scrap materials, pallets, doors, or other such salvaged materials, which create a potential fire hazard and safety risk.

Fences and walls containing natural materials, such as rock or stone, shall be in a uniform and consistent style, free of loose or missing materials, and properly maintained to not create a potential safety risk.

Fences and walls must be properly maintained. All wooden portions of fences and walls shall be a decay resistant wood (not salvaged materials which create a potential fire hazard and safety risk) and be covered with paint, stain, or other substance, which preserves the wood from deterioration, dilapidation, or decay.

It shall be unlawful to erect or maintain any barbed wire, concertina or razor wire, or electric fences or walls on a residentially zoned property.

Fences and Walls are not permitted to be erected, placed, maintained or grown in any manner that impedes the natural flow of stormwater or obstructs a motorist's line of sight (see section 62-32(d)).

Section 3. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause, or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, and phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 4. Repealer.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law. Submitted by Wesley M. Moore, City Clerk.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
BILLY FAGAN TURNER,
AKA BILLY F. TURNER,
Deceased.

CASE NO PC 2024-416

NOTICE OF HEARING
REPORT OF INSOLVENCY
(Decedent)

TO: CINDY TURNER HUIE, WENDY TURNER BLACKWOOD, CAROLYN TURNER ANY KNOWN OR UNKOWN OR INTERESTED PARTIES

Please take notice that a *Report of Insolvency*, was received on the 8th day of June, 2026, made court record the 10th day of June, 2026, by Wendy Turner Blackwood, Personal Representative, through Attorney, Katherine Lee Coleman. A hearing on said *Report of Insolvency* has been **set for the 4th day of August, 2026, at 10:00a.m.**, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama, 35055.

DONE this 22nd day of June, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

Katherine Lee Coleman
Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff & Brandt, LLC
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 530910
Birmingham, Alabama 35253

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JERALD T. ALLEN,
DECEASED.

Case No.: PC2026- 245

Case#: PC2026-245
PB WIL Book: 139 Page: 155
Recorded in Above Book and Page
06/15/2026 4:20PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
WJC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased having been granted to Patrick J. Allen on the 15th day of June, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Patrick J. Allen, Personal Representative
Shelbie G. Hankey, Attorney for the Estate

To the publisher of the *CULLMAN TRIBUNE*:

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

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JUDITH ANN BATEMON,
DECEASED.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
CASE NO: PC 2026-018

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTOR

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 17th day of June, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same within time required by law or same will be barred.

Mary Hurst
MARY HURST
Co-Personal Representative

Debra Warren
DEBRA WARREN
Co-Personal Representative

Alex J. Chaney
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 1052
Cullman, AL 35056
(256) 734-6330

TO: Publisher
The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) consecutive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
Judge of Probate

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
SCHLENIA ANN CURVIN, DECEASED

CASE NO. PC 2026-243

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF SCHLENIA ANN CURVIN, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Hollie B. Griffin on the 15th day of June, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Hollie B. Griffin, Personal Representative

TO: Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith Attorneys, LLC
Attorneys for Personal Representative
328 1st Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Phone: (256) 734-4721
e-mail: sherry@smithandsmithllp.com

1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
ALTON LEE DAVIS, DECEASED

CASE NO. PC 2026-200

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Ancillary Letters of Administration on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Clara Lee Ellis on the 8th day of June, 2026, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Clara Lee Ellis
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NEW SITE PACKAGE
NEW STEM ACADEMY
FOR CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS
CULLMAN, AL

MCKEE PROJECT NO. #25-239A
BID # 18-26

Sealed proposals for this project shall be received by Dr. Shane Barnett, Superintendent, Cullman County Schools, 402 Arnold Street, NE, Cullman, AL 35055 | 256-734-2933, **until 2:00 PM Central Time, Thursday, June 30, 2026** then opened and read aloud.

All General Contractors bidding on this project shall be required to visit the site and examine all existing conditions and shall be arranged by the contractor with the Board of Education.

All Bidders shall have general liability and workman's compensation insurance. The project shall be bid excluding taxes. Bids must be submitted on proposal forms furnished by the Architect or copies thereof. No bid may be withdrawn after scheduled closing for receipt of bids for a period of ninety (90) days. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive technical errors if, in the Owners judgment, the best interests of the Owner will thereby be promoted.

A certified check or Bid Bond payable to **Cullman County Schools** in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid, but in no event more than $10,000.00 must accompany the bidder's sealed proposal. Performance and statutory labor and material payment bonds will be required at the signing of the Contract.

All bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Architect. All bidders shall show such evidence by clearly displaying their current license number on the outside of the sealed envelope in which the proposal is delivered.

PDFs of the project can be reviewed by going to the Lathan McKee website at www.lathanmckee.com and under "Project Bid List" selecting "Montgomery". The documents may be viewed on-line and printed by General Contractors, SubContractors and Suppliers. Documents published through this procedure are the only documents endorsed by the Architect. The Architect is unable to monitor, confirm and maintain other websites that provide documents. Notices of Addenda being posted will be provided to entities that have *CONFIRMED* bidding for this particular project. The Architect retains ownership and copyrights of the documents. If bidders require printed sets, please submit request to the Architect at mckeeplans@gmail.com. Include your first & last name, company name, address, phone number and the project name and number. Print sets are to be returned in reusable condition within ten days after bid opening.

All RFIs and RFAs regarding the bid documents shall be sent and addressed through emails found on the RFI and RFA forms in the project manual. **NOTE: ONLY THE RFI AND RFA FORMS IN THE PROJECT MANUAL WILL BE ACCEPTED.** The Architect will not accept inquiries via telephone or fax.

Completion Time: See scope of work in Project Manual.

Supervision: Contractor to ensure proper supervision of all work.

Owner: Dr. Shane Barnett, Superintendent, Cullman County Schools, 402 Arnold Street, NE, Cullman, AL 35055, Phone: 256-734-2933

Architect: Lathan McKee Architects, 3500 Eastern Blvd., Suite 300, Montgomery, Alabama 36116, Phone: 334-834-9933

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICATION FOR
APPROVAL OF PRIVATE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
MARY KATE MECHAW, * CASE NO. PC 2023-197
DECEASED. *

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties, including the nonresident heirs and next of kin of Mary Kate Mechaw, deceased, that Judy Gray, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Mary Kate Mechaw, has filed an Application for Approval of Private Sale of Real Property in the above-styled cause.

The Application requests that the Court approve the private sale of the following described real property belonging to the estate:

10 acre parcel of land located on County Road 1209, Vinemont, Alabama, more particularly described as follows:

The Northeast quarter of Southeast quarter of Southwest quarter, Section 5, Township 9 South, Range 4 West, containing 10 acres, more or less.
Source of Title: Deed Book 283 Page 951

The proposed private sale is to Crystal McGraw, a willing buyer, for the sum of $25,000.00. The Personal Representative represents that the offered price is fair and reasonable and reflects the fair market value of the property.

The Application will be heard by the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, at the Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama, on the 24th day of September, 2026 at 11:00.

Any heir, next of kin, creditor, or other interested party may appear at said hearing and show cause, if any exists, why the Application should not be granted and why the proposed private sale should not be approved.

This notice is given pursuant to the provisions of the Code of Alabama, including but not limited to §§ 43-2-444 through 43-2-446, and serves as notice by publication to all nonresident heirs and as required for the application to sell real property.

Done this 22nd day of June, 2026.

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

Cullman County, AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
CHARLOTTE RUTH MEREDITH, * **CASE NO.: PC2026-253**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Ancillary Letters of Testamentary having been granted to JEFFREY HARVE MEREDITH as Ancillary Personal Representative of the Estate of CHARLOTTE RUTH MEREDITH, deceased, on the 22nd day of June, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Jeffrey Harve Meredith
Ancillary Personal Representative

Seth B. Thompson
Attorney for Petitioner Jeffrey Harve Meredith
201 Second Avenue Southeast
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD 2026-023

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF
RYAN SCOTT BEIN, DOB: 06/15/1990
TO ADOPT S.D.B., a minor child.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: UNKNOWN FATHER OF S.D.B.,

Please take notice that a *Petition for Adoption* to adopt S.D.B., a minor child (born on November 13, 2017, to Vanessa Marie Bein) was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Ryan Scott Bein, Petitioner. Please be advised should you intend to contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 17th DAY OF June, 2026.

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

To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

Please publish the above notice once a week for four (4) successive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Shelbie G. Hankey
Attorney for Petitioner
409 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

40 local students graduate from University of Alabama

Stephanie Pettis
Contributor

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Some 7,000 degrees were awarded during The University of Alabama's spring 2026 commencement at Coleman Coliseum in May. The University provides numerous opportunities for service and growth through its educational, social and cultural experiences.

Local graduates include:

- Autumn Allison of Vinemont (35179) received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication & Information Sciences.
- Anna Grace Atkins of Vinemont (35179) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Lawson Bach of Cullman (35057) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Gracelyn Bowerman of Hanceville (35077) received a Bachelor of Social Work.
- Austin Bowling of Arley (35541) received a Juris Doctor.
- John Bowman of Arab (35016) received a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering.
- Jacob Brooks of Hanceville (35077) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Madeline Bunch of Arab (35016) received a Master of Business Administration.
- Mark Came of Cullman (35055) received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.
- Brianna Carroll of Cullman (35058) received a Bachelor of Arts.
- James Collins of Arab (35016) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Kate Collins of Arab (35016) received a Bachelor of Science in Human Environmental Sciences.
- Jake Dueland of Cullman (35058) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Arianna Echeverria Figueroa of Cullman (35057) received a Bachelor of Science in Education.
- Shawn Flack of Arab (35016) received a Master of Arts.
- Tucker Gambrill of Cullman (35055) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Ashley Gibbs of Arab (35016) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Alison Gongre of Hanceville (35077) received a Master of Arts.
- Matthew Gossett of Cullman (35055) received a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts.
- Ashlen Heatherly of Vinemont (35179) received a Master of Accountancy.
- Madison Heatherly of Cullman (35058) received a Master of Arts.
- Grant Holland of Cullman (35055) received a Master of Social Work.
- Katherine Jones of Cullman (35057) received a Master of Science in Nursing.
- Alana Kelley of Arab (35016) received a Master of Science in Nursing.
- Raegan Lindsey of Crane Hill (35053) received a Master of Library & Information Studies.
- Delaney Maze of Arab (35016) received a Bachelor of Arts.
- Jathon Meank of Crane Hill (35053) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Virginia Ritchie of Vinemont (35179) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Victoria Rodriguez of Cullman (35055) received a Master of Social Work.
- Emma Seidel of Vinemont (35179) received a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts.
- Seth Self of Hanceville (35077) received a Juris Doctor.
- Taylor Simmons of Cullman (35055) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Abigail Sosa of Cullman (35055) received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication & Information Sciences.
- Desirae Spasaro of Cullman (35058) received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- Dylon Wallace of Cullman (35058) received a Master of Science.
- Brinlee Warnke of Cullman (35055) received a Bachelor of Arts.
- Kayrie Weldon of Cullman (35058) received a Bachelor of Science.
- William Wessel of Crane Hill (35053) received a Bachelor of Science.
- Presley Williams of Vinemont (35179) received a Bachelor of Arts.
- Kaylee Windsor of Cullman (35057) received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication & Information Sciences.

Properties (from Front)

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council at its meeting on Monday, June 22, adopted a temporary moratorium on data centers, declared nuisance properties and recognized city right-of-way maintenance workers.

Read the full story about the moratorium on page 1.

Public hearings

The council held a public hearing for a report received from the city's Code Enforcement official dated May 18, 2026, relating to two public nuisances. These properties allegedly had grass and weeds over 12 inches that could result in fire hazards as well as be breeding grounds for pests.

It was reported that the property at 1315 Maple Drive NW has been cleared, though there has been no word from residents of 611 Cleveland Ave. SW.

Once the hearing closed, council members adopted Resolution No. 2026-109 to declare the properties public nuisances.

Council members also adopted Resolution No. 2026-117 to set a public hearing to declare public nuisances of properties located at 306 10th Ave. SE and 310 10th Ave. SE.

This public hearing is set for Monday, July 20, 2026, at 7 p.m. in the Cullman City Hall auditorium.

New business

The council adopted Resolution No. 2026-113, which awarded a bid for piping along Logan Street Southwest, Sixth Street Southwest and Austin Avenue Southwest. The lowest bidder, at $367,738.49, was Ferguson Enterprises. The project is being funded by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Another bid was awarded with the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-115, awarded to Manning Construction, LLC in the amount of $373,202.40 for site preparation at the Frank Research & Technology Park.

Council President Kim Hall read, "This can only be an industrial site. The work to be done will be on erosion and sediment control, clearing and grubbing, demolition of the current structure that is already there, coordination for relocating existing electric and overhead power."

She went on to clarify, "It will poise us so that we are in a position to mark that as a credible industrial location."

Regarding roles with Cullman Regional Airport, the council adopted Resolution No. 2026-114, which provides in-depth descriptions of the positions, ideal requirements and responsibilities for the roles of airport director, lineman and manager

Hall addressed Resolution No. 2026-118, which provides a one-time appropriation in the amount of $125,000 to Restoring Women Outreach, Inc. for serving a public purpose. The nonprofit provides educational programs along with health services and consultations for people living with addiction. The money will come from opioid settlement funds.

"As I mentioned, this is opioid settlement money. This is not city taxpayer money," Hall stated.

Three first readings were held for Ordinance Nos. 2026-39, 2026-40 and 2026-41, which set sanitation, sewer and water rates for fiscal year 2027.

No action was taken at this time.

The council also stated the need to refer to the Planning Commission regarding Ordinance No. 2026-43, which amends the zoning ordinance to prohibit any new detached single-family housing in residential (R-4) zoning.

A special event request from Melissa Jones of Mary Carter Store for its Stars and Stripes: 62-year anniversary event on July 1, 2026, was approved. The event will take place at 104 Fourth St. SE from 4:30-6 p.m.

The following requests were postponed:

- A request from Cullman Gas USA, Inc., dba Discount Package Store No. 2 located at 1577 County Road 715 Suite B for a "retail liquor (package store) off-premises" alcohol license, which does not meet the distance requirement from an existing licensed business as described in Sec. 4-36 of the Code of Ordinances
- Cullman Gas USA, Inc., dba Mama's Country Cooking located at 1577 County Road 715 for a "beer and wine off-premises" alcohol license, which received a favorable recommendation from the Alcohol Review Committee
- A request from Cullman Gas USA, Inc., dba Discount Package Store No. 2 located at 1577 County Road 715 Suite B for a "specialty retailer of hemp consumable products" approval letter, which does not meet the distance requirement from an existing licensed business as described in Sec. 5-3 of the Code of Ordinances
- A request from Samu2017, Inc., dba Tiger Mart Package located at 6390 Alabama Highway NW for a "retail liquor (package store) off-premises" alcohol license, which does not meet the distance requirement from an existing licensed business in Sec. 4-36 of the Code of Ordinances

Councilman Chuck Shikle stated he had questions about the distance requirement. "I vote that we postpone a vote on this and refer it back to the alcohol committee," he said.

During committee reports, Councilman Jason Willoughby thanked Right-of-way Maintenance Department workers.

The Council formally recognized the workers for their dedication and toward maintaining rights-of-way and other city property that help keep Cullman safe and orderly.

The next Cullman City Council Meeting will be held Monday, July 6, at 7 p.m. in the Cullman City Hall auditorium.

LEGALS

Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO.: PC2026-201

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF KAREN SUE HOLT, DECEASED,

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to James Holt, as Administrator of the Estate of Karen Sue Holt, Deceased, on the 4th day of June, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown.

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.

JAMES HOLT
Administrator of the
Estate of Karen Sue Holt,
Deceased

PERRY D. KNIGHT
Attorney for the Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

TO: The Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
1 Page(s)

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. PC2026-246

IN THE MATTER OF THE NAME CHANGE OF S.G.T., a minor child (DOB09/22/2014)

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF MINOR

Notice to: TO ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN FATHER OF THE CHILD BORN TO SARAH CELENE TRENT JOHNSON KNOWN AS S.G.T. (DOB 09/22/2014)

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

DONE this 17th day of June, 2026.

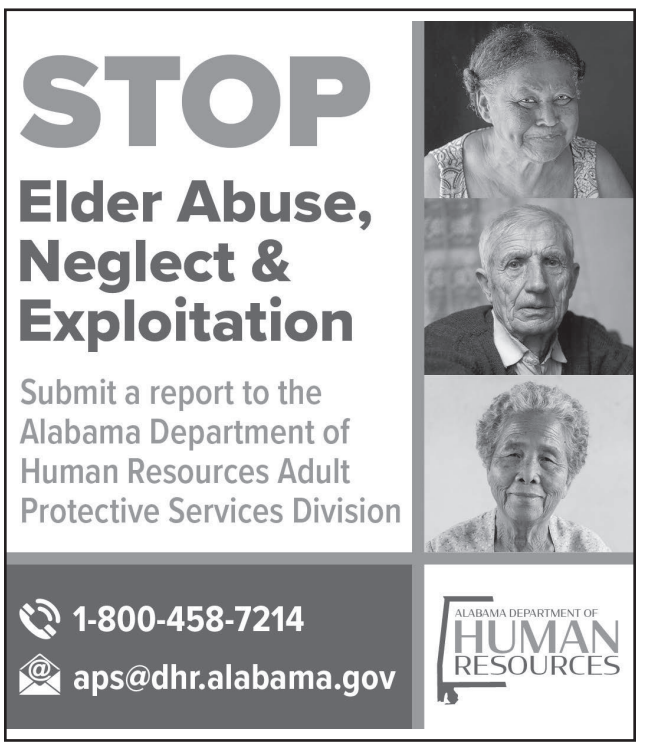
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

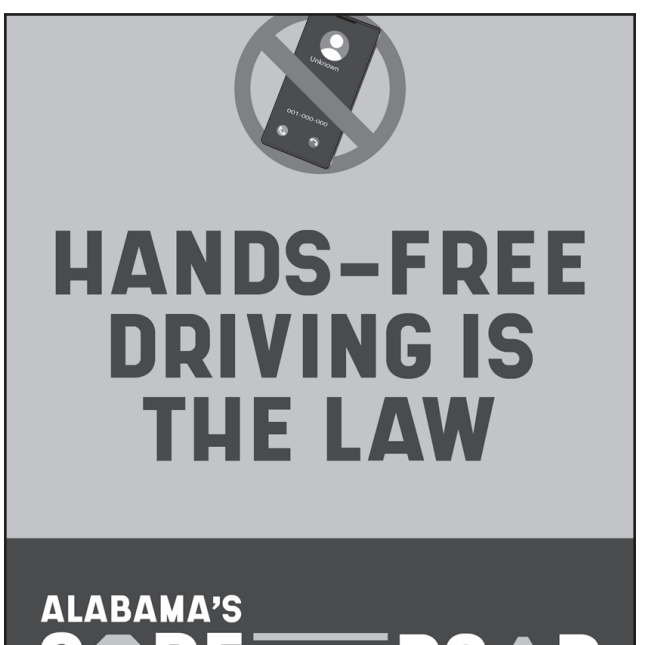
To: *THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE*

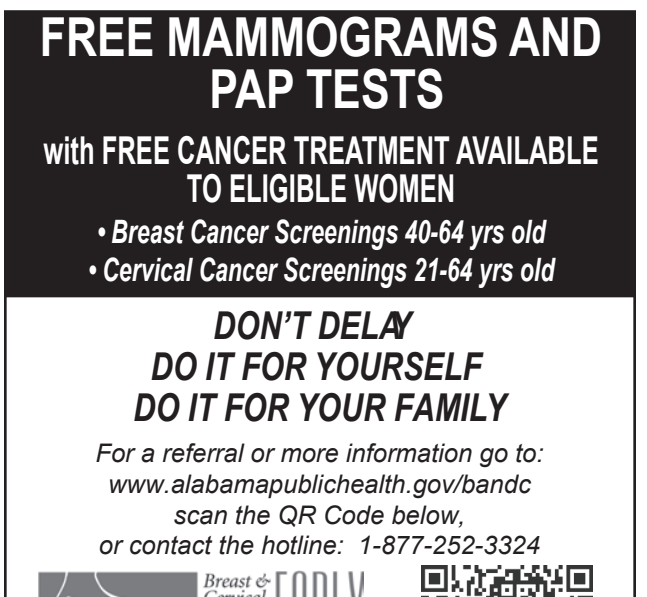
PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR SUCCESSIVE WEEKS.

Sherry H. Barrett
SMITH & SMITH ATTORNEYS, LLC
Attorneys for Petitioner
328 1st Avenue SE
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4721











‘Shrek the Musical’ coming June 26-27

Emily McMunn
emily@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Step into a beautiful world as everyone’s favorite ogre, Shrek, leads a cast of fairytale misfits on an adventure to rescue a princess and find true acceptance. Part romance and part twisted fairytale, “Shrek the Musical” is bound to make you smile.

Heirlooms Fine & Performing Arts will stage the production on Friday, June 26, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, June 27, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Burrow Center at Wallace State.

Journey with the cast on a medieval, heartwarming adventure, learning about self-acceptance, true friendship and looking past appearances.

Tickets are $10 and can be purchased at www.heirloomsfineandperformingarts.com.

Get ready for ‘Tron: Ares’ at Movies at Art Park June 26

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism will host Summer Movies at Art Park (1031 Second St. SW) on Friday, June 26. The movie will be “Tron: Ares” and will begin at 8 p.m.

CPRST’s Christy Turner recently told The Tribune, “When we’re choosing movies, we’re looking for something families can enjoy together.

”We want parents, grandparents and kids to have a reason to come out, spend time together and enjoy a fun evening in the park.”

“Tron: Ares” is the third movie in the “Tron” series that began in 2010. It follows a digital soldier named Ares, who was created by a rival tech corporation. It is a family-friendly science action film that features a race to bring digital constructs into reality.

Art Park has restrooms on-site, but bring anything else your family might need during the film.



Cullman Regional Hospice MEGA CASH Draw Down Set for July 23

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Hospice of Cullman County, Inc. of Cullman Regional Hospice will host its MEGA CASH Draw Down, its largest annual fundraiser, Thursday, July 23, at 6 p.m. at St. John’s Evangelical Protestant Church. The event, which benefits indigent patients, will feature a chance to win $10,000 while also enjoying dinner, door prizes and much more.

Dinner will be served to ticket holders at 5:30 p.m. with the MEGA CASH Draw Down beginning promptly at 6. In addition, the event will have prizes and auction items, including a five-night Destin beach getaway.

Tickets cost $100 each; however, ticket holders can add $25 insurance to their ticket, which allows the ticket to have a second chance at the grand prize. As an added bonus to ticket holders who attend, there will be a chance to win additional cash prizes of $500 and $1,000. All monies raised will fund indigent patient care.

Tickets for the Draw Down can be purchased from the Cullman Regional Hospice office – or can be purchased from one of the following Hospice of Cullman County, Inc. board members: Frances Cooper, Nell Dunlap, Blanche Kent, Clara Kent, Mike Manning, Deborah McAfee, Bill Oliver, Missy Blaylock, Kami Borden, Randy Weathersby, Rex Adams, Trystan Weaver, Wade Bentley or Willie Crider.

The MEGA CASH Draw Down will be held at St. John’s Evangelical Protestant Church, located at 512 Second Ave. SE, Cullman.

For more information or to buy tickets for the Draw Down, please call the Hospice office at 256-739-5185.

Obituary Announcements: June 23-24

Mamie Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Hawkins, 85
Mamie Elizabeth “Liz” Hawkins, 85, passed away peacefully on June 21, 2026. She was born on April 22, 1941, to the late Cumbow and Laura Mae Hawkins. Liz was known for her warm heart, quick sense of humor, and genuine kindness. She had a gift for making friends wherever she went, and her laughter could brighten any room. She loved to sing and treasured every opportunity to gather with her family. Whether sharing stories, music, or simply enjoying time together, she made those around her feel loved and welcome. Her greatest joy was her family, and the memories she created with them will be cherished forever. She is survived by her daughters, Lisa Farnsworth and Amanda Kinnick; her grandchildren, Bo White, Nathan Kinnick, Sarah Melton, Emma Farnsworth, and Ally Farnsworth; her brother, William K. Hawkins; her sisters, Helen Dick and Mildred Kirby; and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, William Richard Hawkins; her daughter, Angela Beth White; her grandson, Ryan Kinnick; her brothers, Gaines Hawkins, Ralph Hawkins, Marvin Hawkins, Paul Hawkins, and Thomas Hawkins; and her sisters, Retha Boyd and Gladys Shaffer. Funeral services will be held on Monday, June 29, 2026, at 2 p.m. at Maddox Funeral Home in Front Royal, Virginia. Family and friends are invited to celebrate Liz’s life, share their memories, and honor the love she gave so freely. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Elina Jean McElvenny, 46
Memorial service for Elina Jean McElvenny, 46, of Cullman is incomplete at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Elina passed away June 22, 2026, at CRMC. She was born Sept. 1, 1979, to Robert Stewart McElvenny and Cecilia Martinez McElvenny. She was loved by her family and will be missed. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Martín Valcárcel, 83
Martín Valcárcel, 83, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on June 22, 2026, in Huntsville, Alabama. Born May 18, 1943, in Calzadilla de los Barros, Spain, Martín spent his youth in restless searching and came to faith in Christ at the age of 26, then answered a call to ministry that would take him to labor in Spain, Cuba, and the United States. For 38 years he served as a missionary in Spain, by God’s grace establishing Hebron Valley Bible Church in Barcelona (in addition to three other churches) and a beloved Christian camp ministry, Campamento Eben-Ezer. Through 54 years of marriage and ministry, his wife, Linda, served faithfully at his side, having left her own country to share his calling. In 2012, the couple moved to Decatur at the invitation of Faith Baptist Church to establish a Spanish-speaking church in the region. During the last eight years, even as his health declined, it remained his joy to lead Bible studies in the Morgan County Jail, where many men came to faith and were baptized. He was known above all for his joyful, fervent singing. Encyclopedic in song and Scripture, he was always ready with a hymn or a verse for whatever the moment required, and those around him could sense his pure-hearted love for God as he praised Him and taught His Word. He served humbly and without pretense, giving himself gladly to the lowly work of serving others for Christ’s sake. In his final months, Martín was able to fulfill a long-held hope to publish his autobiography, A Pilgrim Song. The family placed the finished book in his hands only days before he died, a fitting close to a life spent bearing witness to God’s grace. He was preceded in death by his parents, Martín and Eugenia, and his siblings Luis, Joaquín, Eduardo, and Piedad. He is survived by his wife, Linda; his children Rebeca (Sammy) Schimansky, Pablo (Mônica), Daniel (Elisabet), and Josh (Marta); his sisters Paqui and Pili; thirteen grandchildren (Marcos, Lidia, Anna Sofia, Caleb, Josh M., Lara, Paul, Samuel, Robert, Evan, Jemi, Nuri, and Josh V.); and a great-grandchild on the way. A Celebration of Life service will be held Saturday, June 27, at 2 p.m. at Fairview Baptist Church, 4511 Danville Rd. SW, Decatur, Alabama. A second service will be held July 12, at 5 p.m. at Hebron Valley Bible Church in Barcelona, Spain. The family is grateful for the many people who have donated to make Martín and Linda’s mission possible. The ”Martín Valcárcel Fund” has been created to continue that legacy. It will allow needy campers to enjoy Campamento Eben-Ezer, the camp he started in Besalú, Spain, for years to come. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made via bit.ly/mvrfund.

Bonnie Kay Alldredge, 72
Bonnie Kay Alldredge, age 72 of Eva, passed away on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at Cullman Regional. She was born, Oct. 15, 1953, to David Smith and Joanne Madduxx Smith. She was preceded in death by her parents and son Clayton Alldredge. Survivors include her husband, Jackie Alldredge; daughter, Jennifer Alldredge; grandsons, Terry Garrison, Spencer Hazard and Parker Alldredge. No services are planned at this time.

Carol Bonita Graves, 65
Funeral services for Carol Bonita Graves, 65, of Cullman will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 26, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel, followed by burial at Mt. Joy Cemetery in Hanceville. The family welcomes friends for a viewing from 10-11 a.m. on the same day at the funeral home. Carol was a beacon of joy, known for her infectious laughter and devotion to her family. Her Christian faith was a constant in her life, often starting her day with her Bible and a cup of coffee. Her culinary talents were legendary, especially her beloved biscuits, prepared with love and care. Carol’s generosity extended to her children, for whom she provided devotedly, often brightening their lives with shopping adventures. She is survived by her children, Brandi McCravy-Lenz (Drew) and Michelle Billions (Kevin); grandchildren, Lily Hutson, Camp Billions, Everly Lenz; brother, Grayling Graves; and aunts, Melissa Shapleigh (Steve), Irma Tubbs, along with numerous nephews and cousins. Carol was preceded in death by her daughter, Kelly Nicole McCravy; grandson, Channing Hutson; and her parents, Eugene and Bonnie Graves. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Graves family during this time.

Julia A. Dyer, 85
A graveside service for Julia A. Dyer, 85, of Hanceville will be 2 p.m. Thursday June 25, at Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Dyer was born Dec. 20, 1940, in Cullman County, Alabama to the late Ernest & Daisy Morgan. She passed away June 19, 2026 in Morgan County, Alabama. Mrs. Dyer is survived by her son, Danny Dyer; 8 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and her sister, Helen Corbin. Mrs. Dyer was preceded in death by her husband, Brownie Dyer; parents, Ernest and Daisy Morgan; sister, Helen Corbin; brothers, James Morgan, Wilburn Morgan, R.C. Morgan; and her daughter-in-law, Robin Dyer. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Dyer family.

Sandra Gayle Bailey, 75
Funeral services for Sandra Gayle Bailey, 75, of Hanceville will be 2 p.m., Monday June 29, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Laodicea Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from noon-2 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Bailey was born Feb. 13, 1950, in Cullman County, Alabama. She passed away June 23, 2026, in Cullman County, Alabama. Mrs. Bailey is survived by her husband, Alvin Bailey; children, Joy Blankenship (Matt), Matthew Bailey; grandchildren, Kyra Bailey, Owen Bailey, Ryan Blankenship, Riley Blankenship; sisters, Linda Davis, Hilda Hinton, Ann Wheeler; and a host of nieces and nephews. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Bailey family.

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Email: obits@cullmantribune.com

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