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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**OBITUARIES**
Kent Wallace, Lee Chester Burkart, Jeffrey Mayo Smith, Clara Jean Buckelew, Jesse Donald 'Don' Greer, Sr., Billy Woody, Judy Ann Moctezuma, Jody Lee White
» PAGE 7

**WEATHER**
86 70
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
CHANCE T-STORMS AND PATCHY FOG

**Arrests and Incidents**
» PAGE 2

**Community Calendar**
» PAGE 2



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

— SPORTS —

**West Point Warriors focused on establishing rush attack, overall consistency in 2026**
» PAGE 4

7 93888 98541 4

# Cullman moving forward with $1.5M Center of the Arts Community Theatre project

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — The City of Cullman is moving forward with a $1.5 million renovation and expansion of The Center of the Arts Community Theatre, a project city officials say will create a flexible performing arts facility for theater, music, choirs, schools and community groups.

The project » PAGE 8



NOAH GALILEE/CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*The Center of the Arts Community Theatre will be housed in the historic First United Pentecostal Church building, located at the corner of Third Avenue Northeast and Clark Street Northeast, behind Cullman City Hall.*

# Visit Cullman named 2026 State of Alabama Tourism Organization of the Year



VISIT CULLMAN

*Back row, left to right, are Chris McNeal (board member), Jennifer Ray (board member), Josh Wiggins (board vice-president) and David Moss (board member); front row, left to right, are Delaine Van Dyke (VC marketing manager), Dr. Vicki Karolewics (board treasurer), Harmony Steed (VC executive director), Peggy Smith (VC associate), Tabatha Smothers (board secretary), Tanya Arnold (VC sales manager) and Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs.*

**Staff Reports**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Visit Cullman has been named the 2026 Alabama Tourism Organization of the Year, the highest honor presented to a destination marketing organization by the Alabama tourism industry. The award was presented during the Alabama Governor's Conference on Tourism, recognizing organizations that demonstrate exceptional leadership, innovation, marketing excellence and measurable impact on tourism throughout the state.

"The prestigious recognition celebrates Visit Cullman's outstanding achievements in growing tourism, strengthening the local economy, and elevating Cullman County as one of Alabama's premier travel destinations," said a media release announcing the award.

"This award is an incredible honor — not only for Visit Cullman, but for our entire community," said Harmony Heard Steed, executive director of Visit Cullman. "Tourism is truly a team effort. This recognition belongs to our outstanding Visit Cullman staff, the Cullman County Tourism Bureau Board of Directors, our hotels, restaurants, attractions, event organizers, local businesses, elected officials, volunteers and community partners. I also want to recognize the incredible work of Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism and Cullman County Parks & Recreation, whose dedication to creating exceptional festivals, sporting events and recreational opportunities continues to elevate Cullman County as a destination. Together, we are creating unforgettable experiences for visitors while strengthening our local economy."

Over the past year, said the release, Visit Cullman has experienced unprecedented success through strategic marketing initiatives, innovative visitor experiences, expanded partnerships and record-breaking tourism growth. The organization has increased its statewide and national visibility while promoting signature events, outdoor recreation, culinary experiences, German heritage and family-friendly attractions throughout the county. The award reflects the organization's commitment to measurable results and collaborative destination development that benefits residents and visitors alike.

"Our mission has always been to improve the quality of life for our residents by growing tourism responsibly," Heard Steed said. "When visitors choose Cullman County, they support local businesses, create jobs, generate tax revenue and help our entire community thrive. While this award bears Visit Cullman's name, it represents what an entire community can accomplish when we work together. We are honored to receive this recognition and look forward to » PAGE 3

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## Charlotte Fowler Miller Rumore: Trailblazing journalist, former Tribune owner and first woman elected to Cullman City Council



CULLMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Charlotte Fowler Miller Rumore* » PAGE 5

**Schaffer: Utility planning must stay ahead of Cullman's growth** » PAGE 4

**Kim Hall: First 6 months focused on communication, modernization and responsible growth** » PAGE 5

**Colony Council approves planning grant application, discusses Colony Day** » PAGE 2

**Cullman's Annalee Allen earns $1K Alfa Foundation Scholarship**



ALFA FOUNDATION

*Annalee Allen* » PAGE 5

**PET OF THE WEEK**
**Dusty Rose is a playful little climber with a cuddly side**



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

*Dusty Rose* » PAGE 4



CRIME

# Arrests and incidents reported July 15

**Cullman Tribune staff**
Contributor

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Below are the arrests and incidents reported July 15, 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**

**INCIDENTS**

**July 13**

- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Hwy. 157
- harassing communications; person

**ARRESTS**

**July 13-14**

**Lindley, Phillip J.; 30**
- ignition interlock

**Smith, Jeffery W.; 37**
- public intoxication
- obstructing governmental operations
- resisting arrest

**Gill, Nicolas L.; 33**
- theft of property-4th degree

**Tims, Dalton S.; 30**
- criminal trespass-3rd degree

**Young, Bimmy L.; 50**
- FTA – driving without license
- FTA – fail to signal
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

**Richter, Shellie M.; 47**
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – expired tag

**Tarvin, Daniel J.; 24**
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

**Dudley, William L.; 29**
- receiving stolen property-1st degree
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

**Peek, Angela M.; 50**
- theft of property-4th degree

**Bates, Jeffrey M.; 50**
- FTA – insurance violation

**HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

# Cullman attorney Sara Baker located in Mountain Brook, taken into custody following bond revocation

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Cullman attorney Sara Baker, who is awaiting trial on multiple felony charges alleging she attempted to kill her husband by placing what she believed to be fentanyl in his food or drinks, was located and taken into custody Tuesday, July 14, in Mountain Brook.

The Cullman Police Department announced Tuesday that Baker was located at a residence in Mountain Brook and safely apprehended by law enforcement on behalf of CPD.

Cullman officers were traveling to take custody of Baker and transport her to the Cullman County Detention Center, according to the department.

CPD thanked the Vestavia Hills Police Department and Mountain Brook Police Department for assisting in locating and apprehending Baker.

The arrest followed a court order revoking Baker's bond after prosecutors alleged she violated conditions of her release.

Baker was initially arrested Nov. 25, 2025, following an investigation by CPD with assistance from the Cullman County District Attorney's Office, the FBI North Alabama Violent Crimes Task Force and the FBI Safe Streets Task Force.

She was charged at the time with conspiracy to commit murder, three counts of attempted murder, unlawful distribution of a controlled substance, second-degree elder abuse, four counts of solicitation to commit a controlled substance crime and second-degree domestic violence.

Baker was released from the Cullman County Detention Center after posting a $400,000 bond.

Court records made public following her initial arrest alleged Baker conspired with one or more people between Sept. 1 and Nov. 25, 2025, to obtain fentanyl to cause the death of her husband, James Doyle Baker.

The criminal complaint alleged Baker attempted to intentionally cause her husband's death on three occasions, Sept. 4, Sept. 12 and Sept. 20, by placing a substance she believed to be fentanyl in his food or drinks.

The records alleged James Baker experienced physical impairment after consuming the substance.

A Cullman County grand jury later returned an 11-count indictment against Baker on Feb. 13. The indictment included one count of conspiracy to commit murder, three counts of attempted murder, one count of second-degree domestic violence, one count of second-degree elder abuse, one count of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance and four counts of solicitation to commit a controlled substance crime.



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
***Sara Baker***

The case is being prosecuted by Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker. No trial date has been announced.

Baker is a longtime Cullman attorney and previously worked as a prosecutor. She also ran for Cullman County district attorney in 2004.

The Cullman Police Department said Tuesday:

"The Cullman Police Department would like to extend its sincere appreciation to the Vestavia Hills Police Department and the Mountain Brook Police Department for their outstanding assistance in locating and apprehending Baker."

Additional information regarding Baker's return to Cullman County and her custody status was not immediately available.

All individuals charged with a crime are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

# Colony (from Front)

**Liz Tankersley**
liz@cullmantribune.com

**COLONY, Ala.** — The Colony Town Council at its July 14 meeting heard from Councilmen Michael Johnson and Jerrold Flanigan reported on a grant-writing seminar they recently attended in Decatur. The seminar focused on small grant opportunities that could help fund projects and improvements for Colony and its residents.

In other business, the council adopted Resolution 2026-2, authorizing a planning grant application. Resolution No. 2026-2 aims to secure funding to address community infrastructure priorities, with a critical focus on evaluating the town's power grid infrastructure and stormwater management systems.

The council also approved the purchase of an automobile and a golf cart for town use.

Parks and Recreation officials discussed plans for the upcoming Colony Day celebration as preparations continue for the annual community event. Colony Day will take place Saturday, Aug. 1, from 8 a.m.-until at the Colony Educational Complex at 151 Byars Road. The town said there will be a DJ, mechanical bull, live music, water slide, food, games and vendors. The community is invited to come out and enjoy the festivities.

Residents expressed concerns about recent power outages and electrical surges affecting the area. They noted that the repeated outages could potentially damage household appliances and other electronic equipment.

The next Colony City Council meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 6 p.m. at Colony Town Hall.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Church Services: Spirit Life Church**
- 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
- 256-739-3326
- spiritlifechurchcullman@gmail.com
- FB-Spirit Life Church Cullman
- Friday, July 17 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
- Saturday, July 18 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
- Sunday, July 19 – 8:15 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

**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.
- 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! Drinks and snacks will be provided. For more information contact the Guy Hunt Library at 256-796-5226, or guyhuntlibrary@gmail.com.

**West Point Class of 1967 Class Reunion**
Saturday, July 25, at 4 p.m. at the West Point Brandin Iron. Hope to see you there.

**Cullman Eagle Forum Movie**
Monday, July 27, at 6 p.m. We will be showing the movie "A Great Awakening" at the VFW located at 112 Veterans Dr. SW, Cullman. https://alabamaeagle.org/event/movie-showing-the-great-awakening-cullman

**Holly Pond Lions Club All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast**
Saturday, Aug. 15, from 6-9 a.m. at the Holly Pond Lions Club Building. For a donation, guests can enjoy pancakes, bacon, sausage and coffee, available for dine-in or takeout. All proceeds will support the HP Lions Club Project Fund and the local food pantry. Thank you community for supporting your local Lions Club.

**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

# Visit Cullman (from Front)

building on this momentum."

Visit Cullman extended its sincere appreciation to the Alabama tourism industry, the Alabama Department of Tourism, local city and county officials, government leaders, community stakeholders, hospitality partners and the Cullman County Board of Directors for their continued support.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
JULY 16, 2026

PREP FOOTBALL

# West Point Warriors focused on establishing rush attack, overall consistency in 2026

**Lucas Gray**
lucas@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Heading into head coach Kevin McCravy's third season at the helm, the West Point Warriors are looking to return to the playoffs after a 5-5 regular season and first-round loss to eventual 5A semifinalist Scottsboro in 2025.

The Warriors took a leap, going from two wins in McCravy's first season to five in '25. While the coach continues to settle into his position, West Point will face new challenges after the AHSAA classification shake-up moved them into Class 4A, Region 7 during the offseason.

"It's going to be an extremely competitive region this year, there's no doubt about it. We were in a competitive region last year. I wouldn't say it was the strongest, but you had Fairview and Russellville, who are always gonna be up there, but then the other playoff teams were going to be wild cards and maybe sneak in- like we did. So, you're taking what we had, teams we were having to fight every week and placing us into a really, really tough 4A Region with West Morgan, who have won a ton of games since Coach Phillips has been there. Then you've got Hamilton, who I haven't lined up against in 15-16 years, you know they'll always be very competitive, then you've got Deshler and Brooks, who are always strong. So you're taking some really good teams out of that old 4A region and putting them in with some of these teams from 5A, and I think top to bottom it will be one of the most competitive regions in the state," McCravy said.

While the region is new, the Warriors' offensive philosophy remains the same. No matter the formation- spread, Wing-T or empty set, the head coach said, "Our goal is to run that football."

Supporting returning 2025 All-Cullman County running back Titan Thornton will be an offensive line featuring a mix of returning starters and fresh faces. Led by Julio Fuentes, another All-County selection, McCravy said the line may not be the largest, but their overall speed and athleticism will allow them to get the ball carrier downfield.

Establishing the run will allow the Warriors' new quarterback to settle in as well, but it's still unclear who the starting signal caller will be on August 21 in their regular season opener vs. Fairview.

"We're in the middle of a competition right now. We have Max Patterson, who started last year when our starter went out with a broken hand- he started two ballgames, and then Colton Kimbrel. Right now, they're neck-and-neck and we're trying to get them out here competing every day," McCravy said.

No matter the quarterback, one of the priorities for West Point will be finding consistency in their production. Despite three games with 30-plus points in 2025, there were as many with only eight or less points scored, leading the Warriors to average just 19.8 points per game.

"The goal is to not be 'feast or famine,' and it's not something we necessarily harp on, but as coaches, we know. We go out and score 40 one week, that's great, but then next week if we go out and score zero, what good does it do? That's why we averaged around 20 points per game. That's not something we really focus on with the kids, though. It sounds cliche but we're just trying to work on ourselves every day. We don't want to really hammer down with statistics, just going to do what we do to get better in any situation," the head coach said.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Warriors will stick to using a multiple-look defense that adjusts to the game situation. Cornerback Nolan Franklin and linebacker Bryant Moon return to lead a unit that's seeing an emerging leader in sophomore Ayden Shoemaker.

"Ayden is going to have a bigger role for us this year, he's being asked to do a lot right now, but he's so football smart that he's able to handle it at a young age. Like I said, he's a sophomore, he's playing inside and outside receiver, he's playing inside and outside linebacker, he's playing free safety. You can throw all that stuff at him, though, because he just absorbs it all then he goes and tells everybody else what they're supposed to do because he's got a good mind for it," McCravy said.

The defensive unit will also work towards consistency after giving up 25.3 points per game last season.

Overall, McCravy said on the season, "The goal is to get better every day, that's our motto. We always talk about just working and getting better, competing with ourselves and those around you. We want competition, so for this season to be deemed successful I just really want to see us be competitive week-in and week-out."




LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

*West Point Warriors' All-Cullman County running back Titan Thornton*

# Schaffer (from Front)

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Six months into his term representing Place 4 on the Cullman City Council, Paul Schaffer said the city's ability to grow will depend largely on infrastructure most residents rarely see.

Schaffer, whose council responsibilities include utilities, said water, sewer, electricity and gas systems often become noticeable only when service is interrupted or existing capacity cannot support new development.

"Utilities are the part of city government nobody thinks about until something goes wrong, such as a water main break, a sewer line that can't handle a new subdivision or a business that can't get adequate power or gas service to operate," Schaffer said.

His experience managing a local dealership has shaped how he approaches the city's utility needs. Schaffer said business growth is often limited by available infrastructure before zoning or permitting becomes an obstacle.

"Utility capacity is often the real ceiling on growth," he said.

Schaffer said Cullman's infrastructure must remain ahead of population and economic growth rather than responding after problems develop. That includes planning for new housing, industrial recruitment, commercial development and annexation while considering how each decision affects the city's utility network.

He said the city should not view water, sewer, wastewater treatment, electricity and gas as isolated operations.

"A new industrial park doesn't mean much if the wastewater treatment capacity isn't there to support it," Schaffer said. "New rooftops on the west side of town don't mean much if water pressure and sewer capacity weren't planned for that density."

Schaffer said utility representatives should be involved when the city discusses housing, development and industrial projects so potential capacity problems can be identified before construction begins.

Long-term planning, he said, is especially important because major infrastructure projects are expensive and cannot be completed quickly.

"You can't fast-track a sewer trunk line the way you can fast-track a permit," Schaffer said.

Deferred maintenance does not eliminate an expense, he said. Instead, it can turn a manageable project into a larger and more costly emergency.

Schaffer supports developing multiyear capital plans for water, sewer and electrical infrastructure. Those plans, he said, should be based on realistic growth projections rather than year-to-year reactions to immediate problems.

He also wants residents to understand that utility investment is directly connected to housing affordability, economic development and quality of life.

"You can't have affordable housing without adequate water and sewer capacity to support it," Schaffer said. "You can't recruit industry without reliable electricity and gas service on an industrial scale."

Reliable infrastructure also affects residents' daily lives, he said, through water quality, sewer service and electrical reliability.

"Every economic development win the city celebrates was made possible by utility capacity that was built years before anyone noticed it," Schaffer said. "Residents should see utility investment as the quiet engine behind growth, jobs and housing affordability."

Among the city's most important utility priorities during the coming year, Schaffer identified wastewater treatment capacity, aging water and sewer lines and coordination with utility providers serving new commercial and industrial sites.

He said the city must ensure its wastewater system can keep pace with residential construction and industrial recruitment. Older lines should also be addressed before deterioration results in emergency repairs.

Rising construction and material costs will create another challenge.

"Utility upgrades aren't getting cheaper," Schaffer said. "The city needs a clear plan for how those costs get funded without putting an unsustainable burden on ratepayers."

During the next six months, Schaffer said he would like the council to make visible progress toward a multiyear capital improvement plan for water and sewer infrastructure.

He said the plan should be understandable to residents and businesses rather than existing only as a series of budget entries.

"If the council can point to a concrete plan with funding attached, that's a meaningful step forward regardless of which specific projects come first," Schaffer said.

Schaffer said cooperation among city departments will also be essential as Cullman continues to grow.

He compared municipal operations to the dealership departments he managed, where sales, service, parts and finance had to work toward the same goals.

"Utilities, public safety, planning and economic development can't operate as separate islands," Schaffer said. "They have to coordinate if we want to move this city forward in a way that's safe and comfortable for everyone who lives here."

He said bringing that cross-department approach to the council table will remain one of his priorities throughout his term.

***Publisher's Note: All council members were sent questions on the same day but only Schaffer and Hall elected to reply. David Moss stated he would reply but nothing as of yet. Chuck Shikle and Jason Willoughby never replied to any email requests.***

# Dusty Rose (from Front)

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Dusty Rose, The Cullman Tribune's Pet of the Week, is a dilute calico kitten with a short tail and enough personality to fill any home.

Approximately 12 weeks old, Dusty Rose is playful, smart and always ready for her next adventure. Shelter staff said she has already learned how to climb back into her kennel with the help of a footstool when she knows dinnertime is getting close.

When she is out playing with the other kittens, Dusty Rose may decide your pants leg is simply another part of the kitty tower. Once her workout is over, however, cuddling with her person is essential.

With her happy enthusiasm, intelligence and affectionate nature, Dusty Rose has the makings of a wonderful companion and potential therapy kitty.

Her adoption fee is $100 and includes her spay, age-appropriate vaccines, microchip, deworming, general exam and rabies vaccine.

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 Dusty Rose has already found her forever home, ask the shelter staff about her friends who are still waiting for families of their own.



# Allen (from Front)

**Brooke Foster**
Contributor

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — Annalee Allen of Cullman was recently selected as one of 100 recipients of the 2026-27 Alfa Foundation Scholarship Program. Allen, a senior at Auburn University, received $1,000 to use toward tuition, fees, books or supplies.

Since 2014, the Alfa Foundation has awarded $1.25 million to deserving students through its scholarship program, which is administered by Kaleidoscope. This year's recipients hail from 44 counties and will attend 27 academic institutions.

"On behalf of the Alfa Foundation, we are proud to support this outstanding group of students as they further their education within the state of Alabama," said Alfa Insurance President Jimmy Parnell.

Scholarships were awarded based on grade point average, participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience and future goals.

To qualify, students must be enrolled – or planning to enroll – in a full-time accredited program at a two-year or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school located in Alabama.

*Since 1946, Alfa Insurance has proudly supported the community through various programs, investments and donations. The Alfa Foundation seeks to promote education and support organizations that are making an impact in the communities Alfa® serves. Visit AlfaInsurance.com to learn more.*

# Rumore (from Front)

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Every community has individuals whose contributions quietly become part of its foundation.

For Cullman, one of those individuals is Charlotte Fowler Miller Rumore.

Long before women regularly sought elected office in Cullman, Rumore made local history by becoming the first woman elected to the Cullman City Council.

Before that milestone, she helped shape another institution deeply rooted in the community: The Cullman Tribune.

Her career carried her from the newsroom to City Hall, from preserving local history to making history herself.

Decades later, she remained committed to public service, eventually serving in municipal government in Madison while never losing her appreciation for journalism or the community where her career began.

**From Charlotte Fowler to Charlotte Miller**

Charlotte Rumore was born Charlotte Fowler and grew up in Cullman.

Years later, while commenting on a Tribune Veterans Memorial feature, she helped clarify the names by which many residents have known her.

"When I lived in Cullman (Charlotte Fowler and later, Charlotte Miller) ... I am now Charlotte Rumore," she shared.

That simple statement connected the three names that appear throughout newspaper archives, historical references and public records and confirmed that each belongs to the same woman.

Rumore also confirmed her maiden name in a 2013 condolence message, writing:

"My name is Charlotte Rumore and I live in Huntsville. My maiden name was Charlotte Fowler."

**A life in journalism**

Journalism became part of Rumore's life at an early age.

According to a 2003 profile published by The Madison Record, she began working at The Cullman Times when she was just 16 years old.

Her career eventually expanded to include work with The Birmingham News, Birmingham Post-Herald and Decatur Daily. She also wrote advertising copy for radio stations before returning to community journalism.

One of the defining chapters of that career came when she and her then-husband, Marc Miller, became owners and publishers of The Cullman Tribune.

The Tribune's own published history lists Marc and Charlotte Miller as publishers and editors from 1968 through 1976, succeeding longtime publishers Henry Frank Arnold and Edna Earl Arnold.

During those eight years, the Millers guided Alabama's oldest continuously published weekly newspaper through an important period in its history.

Owning a community newspaper during that era meant far more than overseeing a publication.

Publishers reported stories, edited copy, sold advertising, managed circulation, attended public meetings and often knew nearly everyone in the community.

Newspapers were produced long before digital publishing and social media, making the weekly edition one of the primary sources of information for residents across Cullman County.

Rumore's years at The Tribune placed her at the center of that responsibility.

**Making history at city hall**

In 1976, Rumore crossed from reporting on local government into serving it.

She became the first woman elected to the Cullman City Council.

Reflecting on that accomplishment years later, she remembered exactly what it meant.

She stated, "I was the first woman since 1873, when Cullman was founded. They haven't elected another woman to the council until this day."

Her election represented a milestone not only for her personally but also for women in Cullman public service.

While the City of Cullman's archived election records are still being researched to determine her council place, vote totals and exact swearing-in date, multiple historical sources recognize her election as the first by a woman to the council.

**A passion for history**

Although her newspaper ownership years eventually came to an end, Rumore never lost her appreciation for Cullman's history.

She became a trusted source for historical features and frequently shared memories of people and places that helped preserve stories which otherwise might have faded with time.

One example appeared in a 2015 Tribune feature on librarian and genealogist Bettina Pearson Higdon.

Remembering Higdon, Rumore reflected, "I remember her as being one of the best librarians at the Cullman Public Library that they ever had...always helpful, always friendly."

The quote reflects the perspective of someone who had personally known many of the people who shaped modern Cullman and willingly shared those memories with future generations.

Her work preserving local history also continued through the Cullman County Museum and Historical Society, where articles she authored about notable Cullman residents have continued introducing newer generations to the community's past.

**Continuing a life of public service**

Rumore eventually relocated to Madison, where another chapter of public service began.

She joined the City of Madison staff in 1988 and spent more than a decade working in municipal government.

During her career there, she served as an aide to the mayor before becoming an aide to the Madison City Council.

Looking back on that work, she once said, "I spent 10 to 11 years working as an aide to the mayor. The work is essentially the same."

Speaking about her years serving city government, she added. "We accomplished a lot during those eight years."

Even after leaving elected office in Cullman, public service remained an important part of her life.

**A life well lived**

The same interview offered a glimpse beyond journalism and government.

Asked to reflect on her life, Rumore answered with characteristic gratitude, "I've had a good life, whether it's luck or by the grace of God. All of my children are healthy and lead constructive lives. I wouldn't swap places with anybody."

She also shared one regret many parents understand stating, "If I could change something in my life, I would have spent more time with my children when they were young."

Those words reveal a woman whose accomplishments stretched across journalism, public service and local history while never losing sight of the importance of family.

**Her legacy**

Every newspaper is built by generations of people who often receive little public recognition.

Reporters, editors and publishers record history one edition at a time, preserving moments that later become the community's collective memory.

Charlotte Fowler Miller Rumore was one of those caretakers.

She helped lead The Cullman Tribune during one of its many chapters, broke barriers by becoming the first woman elected to the Cullman City Council and spent decades serving the public through journalism and municipal government.

Nearly 50 years after her historic election, her legacy remains woven into both the story of The Cullman Tribune and the history of the City of Cullman.

# Hall (from Front)

**Noah Galilee**
noah@cullmantribune.com

**CULLMAN, Ala.** — Six months into her first term on the Cullman City Council and her role as council president, Kim Hall said her early focus has centered on understanding city operations, strengthening communication and helping build systems capable of supporting Cullman's continued growth.

Hall, who chairs the council's General Government Committee, described her first several months in office as both exciting and educational.

"While there is certainly a learning curve in municipal government, my background in organizational leadership has taught me that every organization benefits from continually evaluating its systems and processes," Hall said.

Hall spent much of her career in education before joining the council. Although municipal government presented a new environment, she said the principles guiding effective leadership remain largely the same.

"Whether you're leading a school or helping govern a city, success comes from listening, building relationships, studying the issues and making thoughtful decisions that serve the greater good," Hall said.

Her first months in office have also provided a greater understanding of the work performed outside public meetings by city department heads and employees.

Hall said many of the systems supporting city government operate largely outside public view but remain essential to providing services, managing growth and implementing the council's decisions.

"I've gained an even greater appreciation for the people who keep our city running every day," Hall said. "From our department heads to our city employees, there is an incredible amount of work happening behind the scenes that most people never see."

She said the council has made meaningful progress while laying the groundwork for what she described as a modern, well-managed city government capable of serving Cullman into the future.

As council president, Hall said she believes the new council has developed a culture of respect and thoughtful discussion.

Each member brings different professional experiences and perspectives to the council, she said, but shares the goal of serving the city's best interests.

"We ask questions, study issues carefully and work through decisions together," Hall said.

The council continues to develop its communication and understanding of each member's strengths, she said. Hall expects collaboration to improve as members gain additional experience working together and become more familiar with city operations.

She described the council's working relationship with Mayor Woody Jacobs and city department heads as one that continues to develop as elected officials settle into the new term and their respective responsibilities.

"I believe everyone involved genuinely wants what's best for Cullman, and that shared commitment is important," Hall said.

Hall said she has spent considerable time learning how departments operate, how information moves throughout city government and how decisions progress from discussion to implementation.

She said the city can continue strengthening communication, improving internal processes and ensuring officials have the information necessary to make informed decisions.

"My goal is to continue fostering a respectful, collaborative environment that keeps the focus on serving the citizens of Cullman," Hall said.

As chair of the General Government Committee, Hall's responsibilities include administration, economic development, education, finance, human resources, information technology and marketing.

The role has reinforced her belief that city departments cannot operate independently.

"Finance supports every project," Hall said. "Human Resources helps recruit and retain talented employees. Information Technology enables departments to operate efficiently and communicate effectively. Administration provides the structure and accountability that keep everything moving in the same direction."

Economic development also depends on coordination among planning, infrastructure, public safety and financial management, she said.

During the first six months of the council term, Hall said the city has worked to strengthen its internal operations through the development of a new employee handbook, updated job descriptions across city departments and more consistent hiring practices.

The city has also worked to improve procedures governing the purchase and sale of city property while continuing to review ordinances related to growth, infrastructure and quality of life.

"These aren't always headline-making initiatives, but they create consistency, accountability and a stronger foundation for the future," Hall said.

She said a city's strength should not be measured only by visible construction projects or public improvements.

"It's also measured by the systems, policies and processes working behind the scenes every day," Hall said.

Hall views economic development as an important part of residents' quality of life because responsible growth can create jobs, expand the tax base, support local businesses and provide revenue for public services.

"Economic development isn't just about attracting new businesses," Hall said. "It's about creating opportunities that benefit our entire community."

She also emphasized the work performed by the city's administrative and financial employees.

Hall said responsible stewardship helps ensure public money is managed properly, long-term planning remains financially sound and the city can continue investing in projects supporting sustainable growth.

"Strong financial management and strong internal operations are what allow every other department to perform at its highest level," Hall said.

Looking ahead, Hall said Cullman must plan for growth rather than respond after development has already occurred.

"Responsible growth means planning ahead rather than reacting after growth occurs," Hall said.

That preparation includes infrastructure, transportation, utilities, public safety, economic development, technology, streets, traffic, planning and zoning.

Hall said planning and zoning policies guide development, transportation planning prepares the city for future needs and modernization can improve how efficiently city government serves residents.

"Updating ordinances and improving systems help ensure Cullman is prepared for sustainable growth while protecting the quality of life our residents value," Hall said.

Improving communication with residents has also been among Hall's highest priorities.

"As an educator, I have spent my career believing that communication builds trust and that informed people make better decisions," Hall said. "I carry that philosophy into city government."

The city moved its pre-council work sessions to the Cullman City Hall auditorium to provide additional opportunities for residents to attend. The meetings are also available through the city's Facebook page, website and YouTube channel.

Hall said the city has expanded the supporting documentation provided with council agendas and is developing a new website and online budget book. The City of Cullman app has also been launched to provide residents and visitors with alerts and updates.

"Transparency isn't simply making information public," Hall said. "It's making it understandable and accessible."

Hall said residents may not always see the preparation that occurs before an issue reaches a public meeting.

"The public meeting is the final step in a much longer process," Hall said.

Before an item reaches the council agenda, she said it may have undergone committee discussions, financial analysis, engineering review, legal review and planning discussions.

Council members also review agenda materials, communicate with department heads and ask questions before voting.

During the next six months, Hall hopes the council will continue expanding access to public information, strengthening strategic planning, modernizing city operations and advancing infrastructure and long-range planning efforts.

She said the city expects to launch its new website and online budget book soon.

Hall also wants the council to follow a continuous improvement process that includes assessing city operations, analyzing information, planning, implementing changes, evaluating results and beginning the process again.

"Every strong organization is built through consistent leadership and continuous improvement," Hall said.

By the end of the council's first year, Hall hopes residents recognize progress in communication, accessibility, internal operations and preparation for future growth.

"I hope they'll see thoughtful leadership, respect and a commitment to long-term stewardship," Hall said.

Hall said she remains grateful to Cullman residents for the opportunity to serve.

"I've spent my career serving others, first in education and now in municipal government," Hall said. "The principles remain the same: listen carefully, communicate openly, do the homework and make decisions that are in the long-term best interest of the people you serve."

Her goal, she said, is to help build a city government that is accessible, accountable and prepared for Cullman's future.

***Publisher's Note: All council members were sent questions on the same day but only Schaffer and Hall elected to reply. David Moss stated he would reply but nothing as of yet. Chuck Shikle and Jason Willoughby never replied to any email requests.***

# LEGALS

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

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF )
)
TED WAGNON, ) CASE NO.: PC2024-283
Deceased. )

Case# PC2024-283
PB WIL Book:139 Page:494
Recorded In Above Book and Page
06/28/2026 3:27PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

**NOTICE OF HEARING**
**PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT**
**AMENDED PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT and**
**AMENDED PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT**

TO: MIKE WAGNON and all known and unknown heirs of the estate of TED WAGNON, deceased.

The Petition for Final Settlement, Amended Petition for Final Settlement and Amended Petition for Final Settlement of Dawn Wagnon for the estate of Ted Wagnon, deceased, has be **re-set for the 29th day of September, 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 29th day of June, 2026.

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

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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

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

Bill Floyd,

PLAINTIFF,

VS. CASE NO: CV 2026-900228

Debbie A. Sutton,

DEFENDANT.

**NOTICE OF FILING LAWSUIT**

The above listed Defendant, Debbie Sutton, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer Plaintiff's complaint for loan ($178,313.19) by August 31, 2026 or, thereafter a judgment by default may be rendered against the Defendant in Case No. CV 2026-900228, Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 7th day of July, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk of Cullman County

Pro Se Plaintiff
Bill Floyd
409 6th Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055

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

SHAYLA RACHELLE BLAS,
Plaintiff

vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2026-900164.00**

OMAR BLAS HERNANDEZ,
Defendant

**NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION**

Omar Blas Hernandez, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Shayla Rachelle Blas' Divorce Complaint by August 24th, 2026, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2026-900164.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 25th day of June, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
JOSH M. O'NEAL
200 2ND AV SE
CULLMAN, AL 35055

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

1 Page(s)

**IN RE: THE ESTATE OF** *
**HUBERT RUSSELL WALKER,** * **CASE NO.: PC2026-274**
**Deceased.** *

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

Letters Testamentary having been granted to NATHAN L. AYERS as Personal Representative of the Estate of HUBERT RUSSELL WALKER, deceased, on the 14th day of July, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

**Nathan L. Ayers**
Personal Representative

**Seth B. Thompson**
Attorney for Petitioner
201 Second Avenue Southeast
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

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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 August 27, 2026 to the highest bidder for purpose of collecting fees against said vehicle. Any Questions Call 256-734-0433.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2006 Subaru Legacy | 4S4BP61C767346591 |
| 2025 Nissan Sentra S | 3N1AB8BV1SY403180 |
| 2005 Ford Explorer Sport | 1FMZU77K65UB14236 |

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1 Page(s)

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

**IN RE: THE ESTATE OF** *
**HARRY ALBERT PERKINS,** * **CASE NO.: PC 2026-225**
**Deceased.** *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Melinda Kay Denson, as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Harry Albert Perkins, deceased, on the 16th day of July, 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.

Melinda Kay Denson
Personal Representatives

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
Smith & Smith Attorneys, LLC
PO BOX 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056

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

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

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

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

**GLENN WILSON,**
Plaintiff

vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2026-900132.00**

**DONNA HARTZELL,**
Defendant

**NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION**

Donna Hartzell, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Glenn Wilson's Divorce Complaint by August 31st, 2026, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against her in Case Number 25-DR-2026-900132.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 2nd day of July, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
JOHNNY BERRY
P O BOX 1052
CULLMAN, AL 35056-1052

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

**CARRIE COLEMAN,**
Plaintiff

vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2026-000148.00**

**KEN COLEMAN,**
Defendant

**NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION**

Ken Coleman, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Carrie Coleman's Divorce Complaint by September 7, 2026, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2026-000148.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 28th day of July, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER:
CARRIE COLEMAN
1642 COUNTY ROAD 362
CRANE HILL, AL 35033

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

IN RE: The Estate of *
ELEANOR ANN CHANDLER SMITH, * CASE NO.: PC2026-249
Deceased. *

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Douglas E. Harris, as Personal Representative of the Estate of ELEANOR ANN CHANDLER SMITH, deceased, on the 29th day of June, 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.

Douglas E. Harris
Personal Representative

Shay Persall
Attorney for the Petitioner
611 Second Avenue SW
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 841-7800

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 29th day of June, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

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**PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026@ 6:00 PM**
Notice is hereby given that the City of Good Hope Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 20, 2026 @ 6:00 pm the City Council of the City of Good Hope will hold a public hearing on July 27th, 2026 at 6:30 pm at Good Hope City Hall, 135 Municipal Drive, Cullman, AL 35055. At this time anyone wishing to be heard in favor of or in opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 019-2026. Christie Chamblee, City Clerk

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 019-2026**
**TO RE-ZONE CERTAIN PARCELS OF PROPERTY AS SET FORTH HEREIN**
**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO: 019-2026**
**RE-ZONE PARCEL FROM GB TO R2**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOOD HOPE, ALABAMA AS FOLLOWS:**

**WHEREAS,** this ordinance is enacted pursuant to the Act and the city's general jurisdictional power and land use authority, it is therefore, provided:

For the purpose of rezoning the below parcel of property from GB to R2 located in the corporate limits of the City of Good Hope, Cullman County, Alabama to GB

**6.8 AC- Property Located at 76 Schaeffel Road**

1. Subject to any rights-of-ways and/or easements ofrecord. Less and Except all that part of the above described property that lies within the right of way. Situated within the city limits of Good Hope, and lying and being in Cullman County, State of Alabama, heretofore designated as R2 on the Zoning Map of the City of Good Hope, Alabama, and is hereby changed from GB to R2. You may review map at Good Hope City Hall.
2. That this ordinance be published at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in advance of its final passage as required by State of Alabama Law within the municipality, the first publication of said notice and ordinance being verbatim and published in three places within the city limits of Good Hope and the second publication either verbatim or synopsized, with the last publication being published on or about in the Cullman Tribune and by posting in three places.
3. That a final public hearing be held relative to the passage of this ordinance on the 27th day of July, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., at which time interested parties and citizens shall have the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance and any changes relating thereto.
4. That all notices as required by law be given by the City Clerk concerning said public hearing, and in addition thereto, a certified letter be sent by the Clerk to all contiguous property owners at their last known addresses as shown by the tax records for Cullman County, Alabama.
5. That upon final passage of this ordinance, all zoning maps, master comprehensive plans or any other documents of the City of Good Hope Alabama, in conflict with this ordinance be and are hereby changed and amended to reflect the changes and amendments herein.
6. Should any part or portion of this ordinance pe held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, for whatever reason, by a court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect any othei-part or portion of this ordinance.
7. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage or adoption as required by law, including notice, publication and public hearing, all in accordance with Section 11-52-78, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975, as amended.

Christie Chamblee, City Clerk

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| STATE OF ALABAMA | * | IN THE PROBATE COURT |
| | * | |
| CULLMAN COUNTY | * | CASE NO. PC 2026-275 |

**IN RE: THE ESTATE OF LORRAINE MARIE COLE, DECEASED.**

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

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Michael Russell Gandy on the 14th day of July, 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.

Michael Russell Gandy
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

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NOTICE TO DESTROY WEEDS
Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of July, 2026 at 7 P.M. in the council chamber, the council of the Municipality of Cullman will consider a resolution regarding the weeds growing upon or in front of the property at 306 10th Ave SE, in the Municipality of Cullman, and more particularly described in the resolution, a copy of which is on file in the office of the municipal clerk; and at that time and place will determine whether the weeds constitute a public nuisance which shall be abated by removal of the noxious or dangerous weeds; and, if so, will order the abatement and removal of the nuisance. If abatement and removal are ordered, the cost of abatement and removal shall be assessed upon the lots and lands from which or in front of which the weeds are removed, and the cost shall be added to the next regular bills for taxes levied against the respective lots and lands for municipal purposes. The costs shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary municipal taxes are collected. The costs shall be subject to the same commissions and fees and the same procedure for foreclosure and sale in case of delinquency as provided for ordinary municipal taxes.
If no objections are filed with the municipal clerk at least five days before the meeting of the council and unless the person appears before the council in person or through his or her representative to show cause, if any, why his or her objection should be sustained, it shall be presumed that the person accepts the notice as fact and waives any rights he or she may have to contest the removal of the weeds and the action of the council shall be final unless good and sufficient cause can be otherwise shown.
Reference is hereby made to the resolution, on file in the office of the municipal clerk, for further particulars.

Dated this 22nd day of June, 2026.
City of Cullman
Wesley Moore, City Clerk

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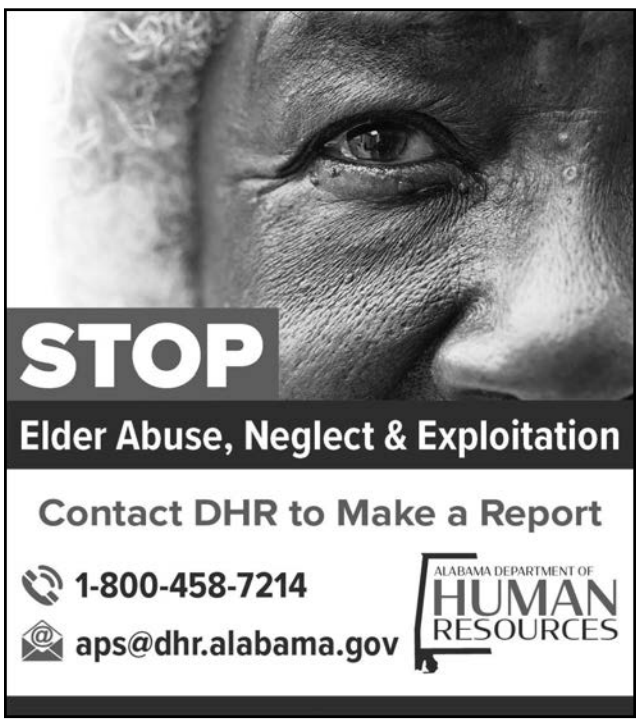
NOTICE TO DESTROY WEEDS
Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of July, 2026 at 7 P.M. in the council chamber, the council of the Municipality of Cullman will consider a resolution regarding the weeds growing upon or in front of the property at 310 10th Ave SE, in the Municipality of Cullman, and more particularly described in the resolution, a copy of which is on file in the office of the municipal clerk; and at that time and place will determine whether the weeds constitute a public nuisance which shall be abated by removal of the noxious or dangerous weeds; and, if so, will order the abatement and removal of the nuisance. If abatement and removal are ordered, the cost of abatement and removal shall be assessed upon the lots and lands from which or in front of which the weeds are removed, and the cost shall be added to the next regular bills for taxes levied against the respective lots and lands for municipal purposes. The costs shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary municipal taxes are collected. The costs shall be subject to the same commissions and fees and the same procedure for foreclosure and sale in case of delinquency as provided for ordinary municipal taxes.
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Dated this 22nd day of June, 2026.
City of Cullman
Wesley Moore, City Clerk










# Obituary Announcements: July 14-15

**Kent Wallace, 76**
Kent Wallace, 76, of Decatur, Alabama, entered the gates of Heaven on July 13, 2026. Born on Oct. 3, 1949, in Decatur, Alabama, Kent was the son of the late William and Sallie Mae Wilkerson Wallace. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who found his greatest joy in spending time with his family. Kent especially loved watching his grandchildren play sports and making memories with his family during trips to Hilton Head. Whether he was riding his motorcycle, enjoying a quiet cup of coffee, or gathering with those he loved, he appreciated life's simple pleasures. Known affectionately as the "Cornbread Champ," Kent will be remembered for his warm heart, sense of humor, and the love he shared with everyone around him. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Sallie Mae Wallace; his brother, Gene Wallace; and his sister, Youlanda Fizcko. Those left to cherish his memory include his loving wife, Rita Wallace; his children, Shane (Meri) Terry, Amanda Ziak, and Micah (Lindsay) Traynom; his grandchildren, Taylor (Grace) Ziak, Brittany (Kyle) Swearenger, Katie Grace (Hunter) Ziak, Cole Ziak, Ashley Terry, Charlotte Traynom, and Henly Mae Traynom; and his great-grandchildren, Easton, Gracelynn, Miller, and Mason. A funeral service will be held on Friday, July 17, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Impact Church in Decatur, with burial to follow at Liberty Community Cemetery near Moulton. The family will receive friends from 11:30 a.m. until the time of the service at the church. Decatur Brown Service Funeral Home directing.

**Lee Chester Burkart, 80**
Lee Chester Burkart of Birmingham, Alabama, passed away on July 6, 2026, at the age of 80. Lee was born on March 16, 1946, grew up in Hanceville, Alabama, and spent summers at the Bay in Orange Beach, Alabama. He graduated as valedictorian of Hanceville High School, where he played football and basketball. He continued his education at the University of Alabama, playing football and studying industrial engineering. He earned a Bachelor of Science in 1969 and a Master of Science in 1970. During his time in Tuscaloosa, he formed lifelong friendships with a group from Talladega, Brewton, and Grove Hill. Most importantly, he met the love of his life, Barbara Parks. Lee and Barbara married in 1968. Lee joined the Army Reserve and served until 1974. After completing his education, he and Barbara moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he worked for Ethyl Corporation. A few years later, they relocated to Jacksonville, Florida, where Lee began his long career with the United States Postal Service. In 1979, they settled in Birmingham, Alabama, which they called home for the remainder of his life. Lee spent most of his career as an industrial engineer with the Postal Service and also served as postmaster of Fairfield. He brought seriousness, care, and dedication to his work. A lifelong Lutheran, Lee's faith was central to his life, as were the institutions through which he practiced it. Beginning in 1979, he attended Our Savior Lutheran Church, where he served regularly in leadership positions on the church council. Lee loved hunting with his friends in south Alabama and fishing with his family at the Bay. He also loved music, with Jimmy Buffett, Willie Nelson, and Irma Thomas among his particular favorites. Although he never put his love of Alabama football ahead of his family or his faith, it did not trail far behind. Lee loved to joke around. With children, he had a wonderfully silly sense of humor. He made up songs and teased them, but he also took them seriously, asking what they enjoyed doing and what was important to them. With adults, his humor was dry, and it was not always easy to tell whether he was joking. "I'm glad you got to see me," he would say when it was time to leave. Lee is survived by his wife, Barbara Parks Burkart; his son Carl Burkart, daughter-in-law Samantha McCart, and granddaughter Maggie; his daughter Katie Burkart and her partner, Alec Dunn; and his son John Burkart, daughter-in-law Heidi Beck Burkart, and granddaughter Miriam. He is also survived by his brother Charles John Burkart; his sister Carolyn Burkart Stratton and her husband, Gary Stratton; his brother Edward Herbert Burkart and his wife, Margie Bock Burkart; his sisters-in-law Julia Snell Parks and Jan Parks Thomas, and Jan's husband, Dan; his brother-in-law James "Jim" Parks and his wife, Cathie; and many beloved nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother, Frances Lee Burkart; his father, Carl Theodore Burkart; and his brother-in-law, William Otis Parks. Visitation will be held on August 8, 2026 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1074 Dunnavant Valley Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35242. A memorial service will follow at the church from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to honor Lee Burkart's memory are invited to make a memorial contribution to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Birmingham, Alabama.

**Jeffrey Mayo Smith, 71**
Jeffrey Mayo Smith, 71, of Cullman passed away Monday, July 13, 2026, at the Folsom Center. A visitation will be Thursday, July 16, 2026, from 5-7 p.m. at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Jeff was preceded in death by his parents, Tueford Mayo Smith and Hilda Nix Smith. He is survived by his sister, Connie Griffin and brothers, David Smith and Josh Smith; step-daughter, Hillary Luker; granddaughters, Erica Barrett, Emma Grace Thomas; nieces and nephews, Amy Griffin, Maris Wren (Scott), Kenny Griffin, Austin Smith and Alexis Smith; a host of great-nieces and great-nephews and family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

**Clara Jean Buckelew, 95**
Funeral service for Clara Jean Buckelew, age 95, of the Gold Ridge community, is Thursday, July 16, 2026, at noon at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Bro. Jason Vinson will be officiating the service, Terry Bentley will be delivering the eulogy, and Bill Golden, son-in-law, will present a family memoir in honor of Jean. Visitation will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2026, from 10 a.m.-noon at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Burial will take place at Bethel Methodist Cemetery in Eva, Alabama. Chaplain Heath Riggs will be officiating at graveside. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Jean was born to Ed Crawford Oden and Bernice Ford Oden on Nov. 16, 1930, in Oden Ridge, Alabama. She passed away on Saturday, July 11, 2026, at her residence surrounded by her loving family. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Buford W. Buckelew; three grandchildren, Kristi, Matthew, and Jessica Caudle; sons-in-law, Greg Fullilove and Sammy Caudle. She is survived by her children, Carl Buckelew (Theresa), Brenda Caudle, Gaylon Buckelew (Sherri), Pam Golden (Bill), Jan Sexton (Tim), and Brian Buckelew; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great great-grandchildren; her siblings, Delane Oden, Sue Blair, Jimmy Oden (Glenda), and Aline Ingram; a host of nieces and nephews, and friends.

**Jesse Donald 'Don' Greer, Sr., 85**
Jesse Donald "Don" Greer Sr., 85, was born on Jan. 18, 1941, in Fitzgerald, Georgia, and passed away on July 6, 2026. A resident of Hanceville, Alabama, he carried with him a steady strength—one shaped by hard work, resilience, and a faithful heart that remained devoted to the people he loved most. He spent part of his early years in Alabama and attended Comer High School in Sylacauga. His determination and discipline carried him onward to the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where he earned an athletic scholarship for swimming—an early reflection of the grit and perseverance that would continue to define his life. Drawn by curiosity and a willingness to learn, Jesse built a career in the computer industry, first working for a Texas-based company that deepened both his knowledge and his appreciation for the field. That passion eventually led him to open his own business. He owned and managed Money Tree ATM's in Alabama for many wonderful years, offering not only service, but also the kind of thoughtful presence that made people feel seen and valued. Later, after relocating to Cullman, Alabama, he worked at Warehouse Discount Groceries—less out of necessity than out of love for community and the everyday connections that mattered to him. Known to many as "Mr. Don", coworkers and customers alike came to know him as a memorable, loyal presence: generous with his time, quick with a dry remark, and grounded in a wisdom that never needed to announce itself. His humor—often understated, always well-timed—was part of what made him so unforgettable. In his home life, Jesse's devotion showed in quiet, consistent ways. He carried a positive outlook that helped him meet each day with courage, and he was known for stepping in wherever he could to lighten the load for his wife, offering steady support with kindness and care. He enjoyed keeping up with political media and the conversations that came with it, and he was a dedicated Alabama football fan—always ready to share that enthusiasm with those around him. Surviving are his loving wife of 35 years, Lawanna Greer; his sons, Jesse Donald Greer Jr. and Christopher Scott Greer; his daughter, Wendy Westdyk; and his grandchildren, Jordan Westdyk, Julia Westdyk, Kristen Westdyk, Lindsay Haswell, and Allen Greer.

**Billy Woody, 91**
Billy Woody was born on Nov. 11, 1934, in Cullman, Alabama; and lived there for most of his life in the Valley Grove Community. He passed away on July 12, 2026, at the age of 91, while residing in Fayetteville, Tennessee, and leaves behind a life marked by steady devotion, quiet courage, and the kind of love that stays with a family long after words run out. To those who knew him, Billy was beloved not for grand speeches, but for the consistent ways he showed up—loyal, thoughtful, and generous with his time, his hands, and his heart. In his youth, Billy served in the United States Army, carrying forward a brave, resilient spirit that never sought attention, only purpose. That same hard-working determination shaped his years as a machinist with National Screw & Manufacturing Company, where he focused on manufacturing Nicholson Files. He took pride in honest work done well, and his wisdom often came through in simple, practical ways—an example that quietly inspired others. Billy was a family man, and he took deep pride in being a devoted husband, father, and friend—steady in his care, loyal in his love, and thoughtful in the ways that mattered most. Even in ordinary moments, there was warmth and humor in him, the kind that could ease a day and make people feel at home. Billy faced many challenges, but despite all his trials and heartbreaks, he never lost his faith. He continued to thank the Lord for what he had been given. Billy was a proud member of Valley Grove Church of Christ, a place that reflected the values he lived by: devotion, steadiness, and care for others. Billy is preceded in death by his loving wife, Geraline Woody; son, Michael Woody; brother Larry Woody; sister Mildred Posey (Elton); father Henry Grady Woody and mother Noler Woody. Billy is survived by his loving son, Jerry Woody; daughter-in-law, Penny Woody; brother, Junior Woody and in-laws: Wanda Woody, Shirlene Abbott, James Abbott and Norman Howlett.

**Judy Ann Moctezuma, 49**
A graveside service for Judy Ann Moctezuma, 49, of Cullman will be 3 p.m., Thursday July 16th at Laodicea Cemetery. Visitation will be prior to the service from noon-2:30 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Moctezuma was born April 21, 1977, in Cullman, Alabama to James and Clara Pennington. She passed away July 13, 2026, in Cullman, Alabama. It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Judy Moctezuma, a beloved mother, grandmother, family member, and friend whose love, laughter, and kindness touched the lives of everyone she met. Judy was truly one of a kind. She never met a stranger and had an incredible gift for making everyone feel welcome. Whether it was a quick conversation or a long visit, she could talk for hours, sharing stories, laughter, and genuine care with anyone lucky enough to spend time with her. She had a heart as big as the ocean she loved so much. Beach trips brought her peace and happiness, and some of her most cherished memories were made with family by the water. Judy also loved shopping, listening to her favorite Alan Jackson songs, and never turned down something sweet—her legendary sweet tooth was just one of the many things that made her unforgettable. Judy was known for being stubborn in the most lovable way, full of laughter, and always ready to brighten someone's day. She had a special place in her heart for the elderly. Her kindness knew no bounds, and she loved everyone unconditionally. Above all else, Judy's greatest joy was her family. She was a devoted mother and an adoring grandmother who treasured every moment spent with her children and grandchildren. Her love, guidance, and support will remain in their hearts forever. Mrs. Moctezuma is survived by her husband, Antonio Trejo; children, Kimberly Dessends, Reyna Moctezuma (Kevin Lobato), Alyssa Trejo, Alejandro Moctezuma, Carmen Trejo; grandchildren, Ariella, Nolan, Nalah, Noel, Mayra, Xander, Zayda; siblings, Loretta Moctezuma (Raul), Carol McCurry, Mary Crosby, Martha Pennington; mother, Clara Pennington; sisters-in-law, Irais Trejo, Amy Moctezuma (Leo), Aldolfo Vargas, and a host of nieces and nephews. Mrs. Moctezuma was preceded in death by her father, James Pennington, and her niece, Melissa Barnett. Serving as pallbearers will be Alejandro Moctezuma, Derek Floyd, Kevin Lobato, Jeremy Jones, Jose Casamiro, Preston Moctezuma.

**Jody Lee White, 61**
Jody Lee White, of Addison, Alabama, passed away on July 8, 2026, at the age of 61. Mr. White was born in Hammond, Indiana, on Aug. 6, 1964, to Howard D. White and Avoline Avis Pope White. Jody's love for music was known by all who knew him. He was constantly singing and he enjoyed playing his guitar as well. He was also an avid movie fan. Mr. White's love for cars kept him sharing his knowledge with those around him for hours on end. Jody loved to drive, work on, and talk about cars and he also enjoyed building models and replicas of vehicles. Mr. White and his beloved Lillian would have been married thirty-seven years next month. Together they raised two beautiful daughters. Jody was a loving and dedicated husband and father and his legacy of self-sacrifice and devotion will be remembered by his family for generations to come. Jody is preceded in death by his father, Howard D. White, and his brother, Mark White. Those left to cherish the many memories of Mr. White include his wife, Lillian Box White; mother, Avoline Avis Pope White; daughters, Courtney Key, and husband Andrew; Jessica White; sisters, Rebecca White, Karen Henslee; and a grandchild arriving soon. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the White family.

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# Project (from Front)

will be funded through a $750,000 Appalachian Regional Commission grant and a $750,000 local match from the city.

City officials said the funding will be used to renovate and expand the existing building for the performing arts theater. The majority of the project cost is expected to go toward construction.

The estimated completion date is fall 2027.

Once renovated, the facility will be scheduled and programmed by Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism, with input from local interested parties.

City officials said the Center of the Arts Community Theatre is being designed as a true community facility. It will serve as the primary home for Cullman Community Theatre, the Cullman Community Band and local choirs, while also serving schools, civic organizations and other community groups.

The facility's calendar will be managed by CPRST to ensure the building is accessible, well-managed and available for performances, rehearsals, meetings and special events.

The city said a 2025 community forum played an important role in shaping the project by confirming the need for flexibility.

City officials said every performing arts group has different needs, whether it is theater, dance, choir or community band concerts. Because of that, the building needs to be able to adapt to a variety of performances and rehearsal setups instead of being designed for only one type of use.

Another major takeaway from the forum came from community band and choir members, who expressed the need for a large open rehearsal space backstage. City officials said that type of space would allow groups to practice even when the auditorium is being used for performances or other events.

The city said the forum reinforced the excitement surrounding the project and gave officials confidence that the facility will be used by a wide range of performing arts organizations for years to come.

Community Consultants, Inc. will administer the grant and assist with grant documentation and requirements.

Because the project has not yet gone out to bid, city officials said it is too early to know exactly where construction costs will land. However, the city's goal is to complete a fully functional facility that is ready to host performances for all user groups within the funding provided through the grant and local match.

Officials said the community forum also generated several wish-list ideas that will be considered as funding allows. Those enhancements could be supported over time through additional grants, donations and fundraising efforts led by organizations that use the facility.

The Cullman City Council on Monday, July 22, 2024, approved the purchase of the historic First United Pentecostal Church building, located at the corner of Third Avenue Northeast and Clark Street Northeast, behind Cullman City Hall, to house the new venue.




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