

The Cullman Tribune

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

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LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

— SPORTS —

Cullman Bearcats looking to ride momentum from strong finish into 2026 season

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Fairview Town Council talks park and playground

W.C. Mann
craig@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. — The Fairview Town Council on Monday discussed plans for the town park, starting with the pickleball courts and lighting, then venturing into ideas for long-term development of an upgraded playground and other » PAGE 4



W.C. MANN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Valerie McKenzie of Woodmen Life presents to the Fairview Town Council one of 10,000 patriotic flags made for the organization for distribution across the country. Left to right are Valerie McKenzie, Steve Eddleman, Mayor Clint Haynes, Charles Banister, Eddie Robertson and Julie Grimes.

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WildWater Cullman celebrates grand opening of Paradise Lazy River



CULLMAN PARKS, RECREATION & SPORTS TOURISM

WildWater Cullman officially opened its new Paradise Lazy River Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — WildWater Cullman officially opened its new Paradise Lazy River Tuesday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, marking the largest single expansion in the park's history. The 1,000-foot lazy river — among the longest in the Southeast — adds 400,000 gallons of water, 17,725 square feet of attraction space and room for 1,000 additional guests to the park.

The expansion doubles much of the park's guest comfort footprint, adding more than 400 new lounge chairs, 30 new tables, 15 new cabanas and 15 new giant umbrellas, along with 300 new inner tubes and twice the deck space, connected by new walkways throughout the park. The Paradise Lazy River can accommodate 600 guests in the water and 400 on the surrounding deck at once. The project also introduces The Sandbar, a new bar and grill located along the river, and new restroom facilities.

WildWater is a landmark feature of Cullman's OmniSports District, a 155-acre hub of parks and recreation facilities in the heart of Cullman that also includes the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center, The OmniPlex, Heritage Park, Field of Miracles and the Active Adult Center. The district drew more than 1.2 million visitors » PAGE 2



CULLMAN PARKS, RECREATION & SPORTS TOURISM

Morgan County man arrested in Cullman County livestock theft investigation



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Nicholas Jock Griffith

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PET OF THE WEEK

Anna is a gentle soul with a helping heart



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Anna » PAGE 8



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Aug. 5

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Aug. 5, 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 30

• theft of property-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; cash; $1,550; Hwy. 157

Aug. 3

• criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damaged property; $40; Katherine St. NW

• theft by fraudulent leasing; Choice Rentals

• burglary-3rd degree; theft of property-3rd degree; S & C Luxury Company; general merchandise; $798; 2nd Ave. SW

Aug. 4

• burglary-3rd degree; theft of property-1st degree; person; miscellaneous; Swafford Rd. SW

• unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; person; damage to '02 Chev. Silverado, '00 Chev. Tahoe, '04 GMC Yukon; $300; CR 1670

ARRESTS

Aug. 3-4

Lee, William B.; 48

• possession of controlled substances

• possession of drug paraphernalia

Blevins, Dustin K.; 37

• FTA – criminal mischief-3rd degree

Mooney, Cheranda R.; 40

• FTA – public intoxication

Goble, Gracie M.; 24

• robbery-1st degree

• burglary-1st degree

• theft of property-1st degree

• assault-1st degree

• criminal mischief-2nd degree

• criminal use of defense spray

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Man (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Morgan County man was arrested Tuesday, Aug. 4, on 12 felony charges in connection with the theft of 10 cattle from the Guthery Crossroads area, according to Cullman County Animal Control Director Rodney Banister.

Nicholas Jock Griffith, 46, of Danville, is charged with 10 counts of second-degree theft of property, one count of killing or disabling livestock and one count of aggravated animal cruelty.

The cattle were reported stolen over the weekend from property on County Road 310.

"While investigating the theft of 10 head of cattle that occurred on County Road 310, information led to Lawrence County, where the truck and trailer were found at a property," Banister said. "Griffith was found on a nearby property, also in Lawrence County."

When Cullman County Animal Control officers and Lawrence County sheriff's deputies attempted to contact Griffith, he fled into a nearby field and wooded area, Banister said.

"After a three-hour search, Griffith was located hiding in the area, was arrested and transported to Cullman County jail," Banister said.

Griffith remained in custody at the time of Banister's statement.

Banister thanked Cullman County Animal Control personnel, District Attorney Champ Crocker, the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Cullman Police Department, Morgan County Sheriff's Office, Lawrence County Sheriff's Office and members of the public who provided tips and evidence during the investigation.

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

Paradise Lazy River (from Front)

over the past year, generating significant traffic for local businesses throughout Cullman.

"This expansion is about more than a new attraction — it's an investment in what makes Cullman a destination," said Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson.

"The OmniSports District exists to give our residents and visitors world-class recreation close to home, and the Paradise Lazy River raises that bar. With more than 1.2 million visitors coming through this district each year, projects like this one continue to strengthen our local economy and our quality of life."

"Cullman continues to invest in projects that bring real value to our families and our economy, and the Paradise Lazy River is a perfect example," said Mayor Woody Jacobs.

"I want to thank the City of Cullman Street Department and Water/Sewer Department for their hard work and dedication in bringing this project to completion. Their efforts behind the scenes made today's celebration possible, and Cullman is fortunate to have city employees who take this kind of pride in their work."

"It was exciting to participate in the ribbon cutting for the Paradise Lazy River at WildWater this morning. The Lazy River area looks incredible, and I know it's already been a great addition to the park. To me, WildWater is a great example of a project that serves two purposes. First, it's a major tourism draw for our community — I believe around 80% of the visitors each day are from outside of Cullman. That's great, because they come to our community and spend time and money, which benefits Cullman with increased sales for local restaurants and retailers, increased tax revenues and increased job opportunities," said David Moss, Cullman City Council president pro-tem and chairperson of the Council's Tourism Committee.

"Second, Cullman has an incredible facility that our citizens can enjoy, one much greater than what would exist without that tourism draw," he continued. "It's an incredible value for our young families in Cullman. My daughters and grandchildren have season passes and have gone there every week this summer. They love it, and I know there are a lot of other young families enjoying it as well."

"Our guests have watched this expansion take shape all season, and today they finally get to experience it," said Michael Schwitek, WildWater general manager. "The Paradise Lazy River gives families and groups a whole new way to relax and spend the day with us, with more seating, more shade and more space than ever before. Between the new cabanas, umbrellas and The Sandbar, we built this expansion around what our guests have told us they want most — room to unwind."

The Paradise Lazy River is open now during regular park hours. After Aug. 5, WildWater Cullman shifts to a weekends-only schedule through the end of the season on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7. For hours, tickets and park information, visit www.wildwatercullman.com.

The park is located at 1707 Main Ave. SW.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

• The Cullman County Special Education Program is seeking to locate children with disabilities ages 0-21 within the Cullman County School District. Ages 0-3 call Kristie Smith, 256-734-3253. Ages 3-21 call Katie Meigs, Special Education Coordinator, 256-739-0486, Ext 2.

• The system is also seeking to locate intellectually gifted and talented children, with the emphasis on second-grade students.

• Contact Special Education Coordinator Katie Meigs at 17600 U.S. Highway 31 N, Cullman, Al 35058.

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, Aug. 7 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.

• Sunday, Aug. 9 – 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, 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

• Tuesday, Aug. 18, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Teenage club art project

• Wednesday, Aug. 19, 10 a.m. Storytime with college volunteer

• Wednesday, Aug. 26, 10 a.m. Children's book club and storytime with Briana Taylor and Angelyn Riggs

• Wednesday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m. Storytime with teenager Savannah Kesick reading "Frog & Toad"

• Wednesday, Sept. 9, 10 a.m. Storytime with Suhana, board member

• Thursdays, 1-3 p.m., Crochet class

• We are looking for community volunteers to read storytime on Wednesdays. Contact Teresa Rivera for details. Volunteers make our library successful, so we thank our local community.

City of Good Hope 2026 Back-to-School Bash

Thursday, Aug. 6, from 5-7 p.m. at Good Hope Municipal Park, 135 Municipal Drive, Cullman. Door prizes, a free meal, water slides, a gaming trailer, back-to-school photos, free haircuts for school-aged children and more. This is a free event.

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church Revival

Through Aug. 7, 7 p.m. nightly, at 40 Mt. Pleasant Road, Altoona, AL 35952 (Egypt community). Pastor Bro. Trevor Shoemaker and Bro. Blaine Burbanks.

Cullman Chapter of The National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees August Meeting

Monday, Aug. 10, at 11 a.m. Lunch on your own at Ready Freddie's restaurant (new owners Roy and Erica Bates). Business meeting and guest speaker at noon. Members are urged to attend and bring someone.

Heartland Quilt Guild

Heartland Quilt Guild will meet Thursday, Aug. 13, at 6 p.m. at Christ Covenant Church, 1310 Saint Joseph Dr. NW Cullman, Al 35055. Quilters of all experience levels are welcome.

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 take-out. 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

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Vinemont (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. — The Vinemont Town Council held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 4, approving several resolutions and moving forward with plans to expand the Vinemont Town Hall.

Among the major items approved was a $210,000 budget for the expansion of Vinemont Town Hall. The project will add additional office space and a larger council meeting room to accommodate the town's future needs. The council also adopted Resolution No. 2026-08-03, authorizing a construction loan to fund the expansion.

Council members also adopted Resolution No. 2026-08-01, authorizing Mayor Bonnie Goodwin to sign an agreement with the Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, along with Resolution No. 2026-08-02, establishing a $10,000 certificate of deposit for future employee retirement contributions to the Retirement Systems of Alabama.

Additional approvals included the town's 2026-2027 Rebuild Alabama Transportation Plan and the purchase of a new privilege license software module from CSA Software Solutions at a cost of $2,295.

During the work session, council members discussed the possibility of installing Christmas lights on 13 utility poles along U.S. Highway 31 as part of future Christmas decorations. The council also discussed the town's social media presence, including how to address negative comments while maintaining public engagement on town posts.

The meeting concluded with several upcoming community announcements:

• Ribbon cutting for 31 South Beauty Lounge - Aug. 8, from 4-7 p.m.

• Senior Citizens Day - Aug. 17, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Vinemont Community Center

• Budget work session – Aug. 18, at 5:30 p.m. at South Vinemont Town Hall

The next meeting of the Vinemont Town Council will be Tuesday, Sept. 1, at Vinemont Town Hall. The work session will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the regular meeting to follow at 6.

Vinemont Town Hall is located at 36 Patton Dr.



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BACK TO SCHOOL

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH Sunday, August 9, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. St. Andrew's Global Methodist Church 615 Main Avenue, SW, Cullman Free backpack and school supplies for K-12.

MOVING SALE

MOVING SALE-114 County Rd. 1493, Cullman, Friday 8/7 & Saturday 8/8, 7 A.M.-3 P.M. Everything must go. CASH ONLY.
.

YARD SALE

QUILTERS ANNUAL INSIDE YARD SALE at Christ Covenant Church, 1310-St, Joseph Dr. NW, Fri. Aug 7, 8:00-5:00 and Sat. Aug 8, 8:00-2:00. We have a BIG Variety of stuff, NOT just for quilters! We have fabric, houseware, children stuff, BOOKS and lots and lots more. PLEASE COME.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 6, 2026

PREP FOOTBALL

Cullman Bearcats looking to ride momentum from strong finish into 2026 season

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — In year one under Trent Walker, the Cullman Bearcats suffered from a slow start that eventually cost the team a playoff spot.

The main takeaway from the season, however, was how they finished. In their last five games, the Bearcats went 4-1 and have carried that momentum into 2026.

"I think the way we finished fueled our offseason. Those guys, they believed in the process the whole time, you know. We're all human, and we all like to see results from our hard work and effort. So the stretch we had to finish the season I think just created more buy-in for our offseason. Our guys worked their tails off. I couldn't be more proud of a six month body of work, including summer. So, we're here, and we want to start faster than last year and we think we put ourselves in position to do that," Walker said.

Now in his second season leading the charge, Walker credited he and his team's relative youth to some of their early struggles. Returning for that young offense that averaged just under 22 points per game are all but one starter, which Walker called, "a really special feeling to have as a coach."

Headlining the Bearcats returners is senior running back Weston Keel, who looks to build off a stellar 2025 campaign where he rushed for over 1200 yards and eight touchdowns.

With Keel's return, the Bearcats plan to continue to employ a multiple-look offense similar to last season.

"We're gonna run the ball to set up everything. Obviously with the rush attack we had last year, bringing back four out of five offensive lineman and a 1,300 yard running back- the ground game will set up everything. We do believe our quarterbacks and receivers are older and more mature this year, so when the defense is going to load the box, we're gonna try to be more vertical down the field and stretch them thinner. We're gonna be more explosive in the pass game, but still rely heavily on our run game," Walker said.

Coming back at quarterback is 6-1 junior Colt Colvard, who started last season. Starting last season isn't a guarantee for '26, however, with Walker saying, "Every year we reboot, every position is up for grabs, so all our guys are taking pretty much equal reps." Competing for the QB1 spot are a pair of multi-sport athletes in sophomore Wynn Shannon and freshman Everett Swindall.

Whoever starts will have no shortage of playmakers on the perimeter. Receiver Nelson Hollingsworth returns, with Walker noting his high-end speed and ability to draw attention as a deep threat. Do-everything gadget player Kolby Holt will also be back in a variety of roles once again. Also finding himself in the mix at receiver this summer is a rangy rising junior in Sam Ellerbee.

Adding to the receiving core out of the backfield will be the Bearcats' duo of 6-foot-3 H-Backs in Morgan Holley and Tucker Screws.

On the defensive side of the ball, the duo of Tucker Willingham and Caleb Hollis return to shut down opposing receivers in the secondary, but in front of them is one of the strongest position groups on the team at linebacker.

"The linebacker core's all returning. Cooper McSwain, Parker Berry's our MIKE linebacker and Magnus Mann. Plus, Braxton Brooks has really got it, he could play any of those positions for any other team right now, he's working himself into the mix," said Walker.

Unlike the linebackers and secondary, there's question marks on the defensive line for Cullman. Carson Stancil is back as a pass rusher, but the team is looking for the other bookend to emerge.

At outside linebacker, Walker noted one of the surprise players of camp, saying, "Mason Fuller- he couldn't really find his consistency last year, but has had a tremendous spring and summer. He's gonna be our outside linebacker. He's probably one of our most improved players on defense. It's exciting to have him as a senior stepping into that role for us."

Both Stancil and Fuller on the line will be essential to helping establish the identity Walker is trying to establish.

"We want to play a physical brand of football on defense, offense and special teams, with an aggressive mindset. We have to be disciplined, we believe that the best way to win a game is not to lose it first, so we've got to be a team that constantly is in the right assignments and right responsibilities and our eyes are in the right spot. We want to reflect the pride that exists in Cullman. We feel like we're stirring some of that pride in Cullman football with the way we're playing the game. We think if we put the right product and the right young men on the field, our community will, in turn, buy into what we're doing and come to support us. We're looking to keep growing this as a community program. We need the community to be a part of it. These guys appreciate when folks come and watch them on Friday nights and we want to build the environment at Oliver Woodard stadium into something that other teams fear walking into," Walker said.



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman High School head coach Trent Walker (left) with quarterback Colt Colvard (right)

Fairview (from Front)

amenities.

The council voted to spend up to $1,000 to level the slab at the pickleball courts, where water drainage has proven to be a problem, after Mayor Clint Haynes and Town Attorney Andy Herren presented options for re-pouring the slab and even possible legal action against the contractor who poured the current slab. Haynes said he spoke with the contractor, who responded that "he did the concrete within specs." Haynes admitted that he did not actually discuss project specifications with the contractor. The council did not give further consideration to legal action.

The council also established rental rates for the pickleball courts at $250 for nonprofit groups like schools and churches, and $500 for private groups or sponsored tournaments.

Councilman Steve Eddleman presented ideas for extending electrical power distribution farther through the park, to allow for additional decorative lighting during the park's annual Christmas event.

No motion was brought to the table, and the council will continue researching possibilities.

Councilwoman Julie Grimes, appointed last month to oversee plans for upgrading the park playground, brought an ambitious collection of options to the table, not just for the playground but for long-term development of the entire park. After talking with companies in the industry, Grimes presented choices from budget to premium for the playground, a hammock lounging area, workout equipment, walking trails and an amphitheater.

"If you look at that final vision down there, it sets up almost like little areas of gathering for our community," said Grimes, "because that's the whole purpose of this park for us, is to bring this community together."

Grimes said that the biggest version of the plans envisioned a 10-year development project implemented in steps, starting with the playground upgrade.

Ideas for the playground ranged from a $45,000 relocation of existing equipment to $100,000 for relocation plus the purchase of certain new equipment.

The council will consider options when it begins budget planning for next year later this month.

The council voted to purchase a computerized lighted sign for town hall in the amount of $29,000.

Mayor Haynes told the council that 13 area businesses have already committed to advertise on the sign with digitally rotating screens, at a current cost of $2,200 per business.

Participants will be able to advertise on the sign for 10 years, and new businesses or groups will be able to join the project in future years at prorated amounts.

The council once again tabled discussion of a franchise fee for Sprout Internet. The town currently receives $4,057 per year in franchise fees from Cullman Jefferson Gas and $490 per quarter from Charter Cable. Haynes predicted that a Sprout franchise fee would generate $4,000-6,000 per year, and that the company would likely add around $3 per month to customers' bills to cover the cost. The matter can be taken up again at the next meeting.

Haynes also told the council he hopes to get job information out to the public in the next two weeks for the park director position recently vacated. He said interviews could begin as early as September.

The council welcomed Valerie McKenzie of Woodmen Life, whose organization presented the town a patriotic American flag celebrating the nation's 250th anniversary. The flag is one of 10,000 ordered by the company for distribution to communities across the country.

The Fairview Town Council meets next on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. in Fairview Town Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Tax (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

Alabama lawmakers have already decided that the online adult-content industry is profitable enough to tax.

Beginning Sept. 1, 2025, Alabama imposed a 10% tax on the gross receipts of commercial entities operating adult websites.

The tax covers sales, memberships, subscriptions, performances and other qualifying content produced, sold, filmed or generated in Alabama.

The Alabama Department of Revenue also says the tax applies when the purchaser is located in Alabama.

The law does not specifically name OnlyFans or impose a separate tax directly on every individual creator. However, it plainly reaches the same online adult-content economy in which creators sell subscriptions, performances and recorded material.

That raises a question Alabama lawmakers appear to have avoided:

What exactly is the state taxing?

Act 2024-97 declares pornography a public health crisis. It says pornography treats people as commodities and increases the demand for prostitution, sex trafficking and child exploitation. Alabama then turned around and created a revenue stream from the same industry it described in those terms.

The existence of a tax does not grant a license, immunity or declaration that every taxable transaction is lawful. Paying Alabama 10% does not erase the criminal code.

But that is precisely why lawmakers must address the contradiction they created. Alabama is collecting revenue from an industry while leaving obscenity and prostitution statutes on the books that may reach some of the conduct occurring within it.

Not every adult image or video is legally obscene. Sexually explicit expression does not become criminal merely because someone considers it immoral or offensive.

Alabama uses a three-part obscenity test. The material, taken as a whole, must appeal to the prurient interest under contemporary community standards, depict sexual conduct in a patently offensive manner and lack serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

That is a demanding legal standard, as it should be.

Yet Alabama's definitions are much broader than many people may realize.

"Material" includes videos, electronic reproductions, broadcasts, transmissions, telephone communications and live performances. "Sexual conduct" expressly includes sexual intercourse, masturbation and lewd exhibition of the genitals. Producing material includes creating, filming, directing or staging it.

Alabama law prohibits knowingly producing, offering to produce or agreeing to produce obscene material for something of pecuniary value. Its instructions also say material that might not otherwise be obscene may qualify when its commercial distribution amounts to exploitation of erotica solely for prurient appeal.

That language deserves examination in the age of custom adult content.

There is an understandable legal distinction between purchasing an existing video and paying someone to perform a sexual act at the buyer's direction.

A general subscription may provide access to a collection of previously created material. That resembles the traditional sale of adult entertainment.

A private commission is different.

In that transaction, a customer may select the sexual act, dictate what the performer should wear, instruct the performer what to say and direct how the act should be performed. The performer then creates the video specifically for that customer in exchange for money.

The presence of a camera should not end the legal analysis.

When the sole apparent purpose is for one paying customer to direct another person's sexual conduct for personal gratification, lawmakers should explain why that is categorically different from a commercial sexual service.

It may still be treated as protected content. It may instead satisfy Alabama's obscenity statute in a particular case. The answer depends on the actual material and the complete constitutional test, not merely the platform's name.

The prostitution question is related but distinct.

Alabama law prohibits soliciting another person to engage in sexual intercourse, a sexual act or sexual contact for monetary consideration or something else of marketable value. It also prohibits agreements to engage in intercourse or sexual contact with another person for compensation.

A remotely produced solo video may remain outside the traditional definition because the purchaser does not physically participate in the sexual contact. That is the principal line separating adult content from prostitution.

But online conduct can cross that line.

Consider a performer who sells paid raffle tickets offering prizes such as used underwear, sexual devices used in videos or an opportunity to have sex with the performer while the encounter is recorded as content.

A paid drawing immediately raises gambling concerns. Alabama's Constitution prohibits lotteries, and Alabama authorities generally recognize the essential elements as consideration, chance and a prize. Selling entries, drawing a winner and awarding that winner something of value appear to satisfy those elements.

A raffle offering intercourse as the prize presents an even clearer problem.

The participants pay money. Chance determines which paying participant is selected. The advertised reward is sexual intercourse with the performer.

Calling the resulting encounter "content" does not necessarily change the substance of the transaction. A camera does not automatically transform sex offered for monetary consideration into something unrelated to prostitution.

The same concern applies when customers purchase private performances in real time, direct the performer's sexual conduct and pay according to what the performer agrees to do. At some point, the word "content" becomes less a legal category than a convenient label placed over a commercial sexual transaction.

That does not mean every OnlyFans creator is violating Alabama law. It does not mean every explicit video is obscene or every custom request constitutes prostitution.

It means Alabama's laws were written for a world in which pornography was purchased from a store and prostitution occurred in a room. Technology has collapsed the distance between the two.

Today, a customer can negotiate the price, select the performer, direct the sexual conduct, watch it live, commission a private recording or purchase a chance to engage in the act personally. Alabama's criminal laws have not clearly addressed where protected expression ends and commercial sexual activity begins.

Lawmakers cannot credibly describe pornography as a public health crisis, connect it to prostitution, tax its subscriptions and performances, then refuse to define which transactions remain lawful.

They should either explain why these activities are protected content, update the obscenity and prostitution statutes to address digital transactions or acknowledge that existing laws may already prohibit conduct the state is taxing but not enforcing.

Alabama should not govern with one hand extended for tax revenue and the other covering its eyes.

The final question belongs to the Legislature:

Why remain double-minded, condemning an industry in one law, taxing it in another and leaving Alabamians to guess whether the underlying conduct is expression, obscenity or prostitution?

Day in the Park

The Holly Pond Fire Department hosted the fifth annual Day in the Park event at Governors Park on Aug. 1, 2026.


KATIE DRUMMOND/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


KATIE DRUMMOND/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE


KATIE DRUMMOND/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Flourish of Cullman to celebrate 10 years at Aug. 14 2nd Fridays

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Flourish of Cullman will mark a decade of helping individuals with differing abilities pursue employment, independence and stronger connections within their community during the Aug. 14 2nd Fridays event in downtown Cullman.

The nonprofit plans to celebrate its 10th anniversary at a downtown booth from 5-8 p.m. Visitors will be able to meet members of the Flourish team, learn about its programs and share memories from the organization's first decade.

The broader 2nd Fridays event, themed "Neon Moon," is scheduled from 5:30-9 p.m. and will feature live music, food trucks, vendors and family activities.

Flourish was established in August 2016 after its founders identified a need for community-based services that could help individuals with differing abilities live, work and participate socially with greater independence.

Its mission centers on supporting each individual's dignity, personal goals and ability to become an active member of the community.

Flourish organizes its primary services around three areas: Live, Work and Play.

The Live program provides scheduled home visits with life coaches who help participants establish personal goals and develop skills involving household organization, meal planning, budgeting, personal care and other aspects of independent living.

The Work program provides assessments, job-readiness training, interview assistance, job coaching and long-term employment support. Flourish says the service is funded through the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

The Play program gives participants opportunities to form friendships, strengthen social skills and take part in activities throughout the community.

Founder and CEO Melissa Dew has said Flourish grew from seeing individuals leave school without adequate opportunities to continue building employment and independent-living skills.

"I really feel like we have a solid organization here, and I feel like we're making an impact on the individuals that we serve," Dew said in a 2025 feature published by the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Dew's interest in the work was influenced by her younger sister, April, who had cerebral palsy.

Dew later became an occupational therapy assistant and worked with students in the Cullman city and county school systems before helping establish Flourish.

The organization's growth has depended partly on relationships with Cullman-area employers willing to offer participants competitive employment and opportunities to demonstrate their abilities.

"Cullman has really stepped up and offered employment to the people that we serve in our community," Dew said during Flourish's 2024 fundraising banquet.

Decatur Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Rachel Greene also praised the organization's efforts to connect participants with employers and community resources.

"I have only wonderful things to say about Flourish and their team," Greene said in the 2025 ADRS feature. "Melissa is an exceptional leader."

Flourish received the Alabama Association of People Supporting Employment First Agency of the Year Award in 2019.

The organization has since expanded its work to include employment preparation, life coaching, social programs and independent-living support.

Current members of the organization's leadership team include Dew, Executive Director Lisa Butts, Operations Manager Stacy Monk and Office, Finance and Human Resources Manager Lindsay Robinson.

Flourish's anniversary celebration will recognize the individuals served by the organization as well as the families, employees, volunteers, donors, employers and community partners who have supported its mission since 2016.

For more information about Flourish of Cullman, visit www.flourishofcullman.com.

CARTS ridership climbs 29% in July

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Area Rural Transit System reported a 29% increase in ridership during July as its drivers traveled more than 46,000 miles connecting residents with jobs, medical care and other services.

CARTS provided an average of 190 rides per operating day during the month, according to figures released by the county transportation provider.

Based on the reported percentage increase, CARTS averaged approximately 147 rides per operating day in July 2025. That represents an increase of roughly 43 daily rides over the previous year.

The transportation system said the numbers reflect seniors traveling to medical appointments, individuals with disabilities maintaining their independence, employees getting to work and families reaching businesses and essential services throughout the community.

CARTS is a demand-response public transportation provider serving Cullman County. Unlike a traditional fixed-route bus system, riders generally schedule transportation based on when and where they need to travel.

The system operates a fleet of 37 vehicles ranging from standard vans to buses capable of carrying as many as 25 passengers. Thirty-six vehicles are equipped with accessibility lifts.

CARTS operates Monday through Friday, except holidays. Its office is open from 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m., while ride reservations may be made from 6:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Riders should call 256-734-1246 no later than 2:30 p.m. on the business day before transportation is needed. Same-day rides may be available when the schedule allows, but an additional $2 charge applies.

Regular one-way fares are based on distance:

- Up to 7 miles: $2
- More than 7 miles through 15 miles: $4
- More than 15 miles: $6

Riders who are 60 or older and riders with disabilities receive a 50% discount on those fares. Exact change is required when boarding. CARTS also sells $10 and $20 punch cards through its drivers and office.

Riders may schedule as many as three stops per day when space and scheduling permit. An additional $1 is charged for each stop.

CARTS also operates county shopping routes on designated weekdays. Those routes cost $3 round trip and serve different areas of the county each day:

- Monday: Vinemont, Jones Chapel and West Point
- Tuesday: Holly Pond, Welti and Berlin
- Wednesday: Cold Springs, Dodge City and Good Hope
- Thursday: Baileyton, Gold Ridge, Fairview, Joppa, Simcoe, Hanceville, Colony, Garden City and White City
- Friday: Crane Hill and Logan

City shopping pickups are scheduled for 10 a.m. or noon on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Cullman County Commission on Aging also reports that CARTS provides free transportation to and from the county's full-time senior centers. Riders should still call at least one business day before transportation is needed. Alabama's rural transit program uses federal and local funding to support public transportation in communities outside larger urbanized areas. Such services are intended to help rural residents reach health care, employment, shopping and other necessities.

The CARTS office is located at 1950 Beech Ave. SE in Cullman. To reserve a ride or request additional information, call 256-734-1246.

The Willow Path bringing French Quarter-inspired fundraiser to Cullman Sept. 17

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cajun cuisine, dueling pianos, auctions and the atmosphere of New Orleans will come together Thursday, Sept. 17, during The Willow Path's next major fundraiser.

"Passport Series: A Night in the French Quarter" will be held from 6-10 p.m. at Cotton Creek Venue, 417 Third Ave. SW, in Cullman.

The evening will benefit The Willow Path's work with survivors of domestic violence and their children throughout Cullman County.

The organization's promotional materials list authentic Cajun cuisine, high-energy dueling pianos, a bourbon tasting and live and silent auctions among the evening's planned attractions. The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce describes the fundraiser as an immersive experience inspired by the culture, energy and character of New Orleans.

Additional features are expected to include signature cocktails, interactive experiences and other French Quarter-themed elements.

Individual tickets cost $70. Tickets will be sold through 10:59 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10. Availability is limited and the number of remaining tickets is expected to change as reservations are made.

Proceeds will help fund emergency shelter, counseling, legal and court advocacy, family services, prevention education and other forms of assistance for survivors working toward safer and more stable futures.

The Willow Path operates emergency and transitional shelter programs for survivors and their children. Its services also include confidential counseling, safety planning, support groups, court accompaniment, assistance with protection orders, child and family advocacy and connections to community resources.

Shelter advocates are available 24 hours a day.

The organization was established in 1991 as Victim Services of Cullman and adopted The Willow Path name in September 2025.

The willow tree in its branding represents resilience, renewal and the ability to endure difficult circumstances, while the path represents a survivor's continued movement toward safety and healing.

This year marks the nonprofit's 35th year of serving Cullman County.

The organization recently reported a 68.5% increase in emergency shelter stays and a 48.8% increase in the number of people served during the past year. It also reported increases in successful program completions and clients reaching stable housing.

"Domestic violence is not just a private issue, it is a community issue," Executive Director Jessica Atchley said.

The September fundraiser follows the organization's record-setting 2025 Masquerade Ball.

Approximately 300 people attended that event, which raised an estimated $50,000 through ticket sales, sponsorships, auctions and other activities.

The new name, The Willow Path, was also publicly announced during that fundraiser.

Atchley said following the 2025 event that community support is essential to the organization's ability to stand beside survivors.

"None of this would be possible without our community standing with survivors," Atchley said.

Tickets for "A Night in the French Quarter" may be purchased at https://donorbox.org/events/954963/steps/choose_tickets.

For information about the organization or its services, call 256-775-2600. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Anyone experiencing domestic violence or seeking immediate assistance may call The Willow Path's 24-hour crisis line at 256-734-6100.



LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF: *
MARY ELLA KIMBRIL SHIKLE, * **CASE NO.: PC2026-256**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to TRAVIS DARREN SHIKLE, as Personal Representative of the Estate of MARY ELLA KIMBRIL SHIKLE, deceased, on the 20th day of July, 2026, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court of Cullman County.

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.

Travis Darren Shikle
Personal Representative

Jerry L. Kilgo
Attorney for Petitioner
421 3rd Ave SE Ste. 245
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 474-8883

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 20th day of July, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Tina W Bagwell, Joseph M Yovino to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for New South Federal Savings Bank, its successors and assigns dated May 19, 2004; said mortgage being recorded on May 19, 2004 in Deed Book 1382, Page 474 as having been modified by an agreement recorded in Deed Book 2011, Page 373 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing by assignment recorded in Deed Book 361, Page 827 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on October 8, 2026 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot No. Six (6) in Block One (1) of Karter's Lakeview Subdivision as shown and known on the map recorded in Book 1, Page 18 in the Probate Records of Cullman County, Alabama.

Said property is commonly known as **1517 Maple Drive Nw, Cullman, AL 35055**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 26-08205AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
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26-08205AL

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2026-132

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MARGARET ANN KLEIN BAUMGARTNER, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Patrick L. Klein and Rebecca K. Klein on the 21st day 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.

Patrick L. Klein and Rebecca K. Klein
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

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

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by George M Flanigan, Willie S Flanigan to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns dated September 25, 2006; said mortgage being recorded on September 29, 2004 in Deed Book 1490, Page 673 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to PNC Bank, National Association by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2162, Page 657 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, PNC Bank, National Association, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on August 27, 2026 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Eight tenths (.8) of an acre, more or less, in the Northwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 5, Township 13 South, Range 3 West and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Southwest corner of the said forty acre tract, thence North along the West line of the forty a distance of 151 feet, thence East 20 feet, thence North 36° 55' East 315 feet, thence North 21° East 210 feet, thence North 200 feet to an iron pin, which is the point of beginning of the property here conveyed, thence South 35° 30' East 229 feet, thence North 55° 55' East 222 feet, thence North 37° 35' West 104 feet thence South 85° 21' West 255.5 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to existing rights of way for public roads and public utility lines and poles.

Said property is commonly known as **273 Johnson Cir, Hanceville, AL 35077**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 26-08660AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
07/23/2026,07/30/2026,08/06/2026

26-08660AL

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
)
SUSAN CLUXTON RIX,) CASE NO.: PC2026-081
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION WITH THE WILL ANNEXED and PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: JASON MURPHREE, JACKIE MURPHREE, NIKKI DALE WILBORN and all Known and Unknown Heirs of the estate of SUSAN RIX CLUXTON, deceased.

The *Petition for Letters of Administration with the Will Annexed* and *Petition for Probate of Will* has been set for hearing on **20th day of October, 2026, at 10:00a.m.** before Tammy Brown Judge of Probate, Room 101.

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

DONE this 27th day of July, 2026.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: *
WILLIAM RONNIE FOSTER, * **CASE NO. PC2026-265**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted CYNTHIA JEAN FOSTER, as Administrator of the Estate of WILLIAM RONNIE FOSTER, deceased, on the 4th day of August, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

DONE this the 4th day of August, 2026.

Cynthia Jean Foster
Administrator

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

TO: Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
QUINTON JESSIE BELL, * **CASE NO.: PC2026-263**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to CARLTON WAYNE BELL, SR. as Administrator of the Estate of QUINTON JESSIE BELL, deceased, on the 4th day of August, 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.

Carlton Wayne Bell Sr.
Personal Representative

Smith & Kilgo Law, LLC
Jerry L. Kilgo
Attorney for the Administrator
421 3rd Ave SE, Suite 245
Cullman, Al 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

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

GARRISON LOGISTICS, INC., *
PLAINTIFF, *
V. * CASE NO. DV 2026 – 900246
DAVID STYLES and DAVID STYLES DBA STYLES TRUCKING, LLC, *
DEFENDANTS. *

FILED IN OFFICE
AUG 03 2026
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Please take notice that a Summons and Complaint in the above-styled matter was filed by Plaintiff, Garrison Logistics, Inc., in the District Court of Cullman County, Alabama, on May 13, 2026. Attempts have been made to serve Defendant, David Styles, with the Summons and Complaint by Restricted, Certified, U.S. Mail at the Defendant's address of 322 S Pleasant Street, Springdale, AR 72764, and Defendant, David Styles DBA Styles Trucking, LLC, C/O Sonia Abdelmaksoud, RA, 3005 S 4th Street, Rogers, AR 72758. Please be advised that David Styles and David Styles DBA Styles Trucking, LLC, as the named Defendants, have thirty (30) days from the last date of publication to contest said Complaint and must do so by filing a written response with the Cullman County Clerk of Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055 and with Plaintiff's Attorney, Shay Persall, Shay Persall Law, LLC, 611 7th Street SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

Done this 3rd day of August, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
LISA McSWAIN, CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

/s/ Shay Persall
Attorney for Plaintiff
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
)
VIRGINIA MAY HARPER,) CASE NO.: PC2024-401
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

TO: LINDA O'CONNOR, KATHERINE O'CONNOR, EMERALD O'CONNER AND ANY KNOWN AND UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KINS OR INTERESTED PARTIES OF VIRGINA MAY HARPER

Petition for Final Settlement filed by William Harper, Personal Representative, through Attorney, Dan J. Willingham has been set for hearing on **29th day of September, 2026, at 10:00a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Cullman County Courthouse
Probate Office
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

DONE this 31st day of July, 2026.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune
Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper and send an affidavit of publication to the Judge of Probate.

Dan J. Willingham
Attorney for Petitioner
413 First Avenue SW
Cullman, Al 35056

Prior to entering any Alabama school or child care center, an up-to-date Certificate of Immunization must be submitted for each child.

www.alabamapublichealth.gov/imm

VFC Alabama Vaccines for Children Program · Alabama Public Health · IMM Immunization Division





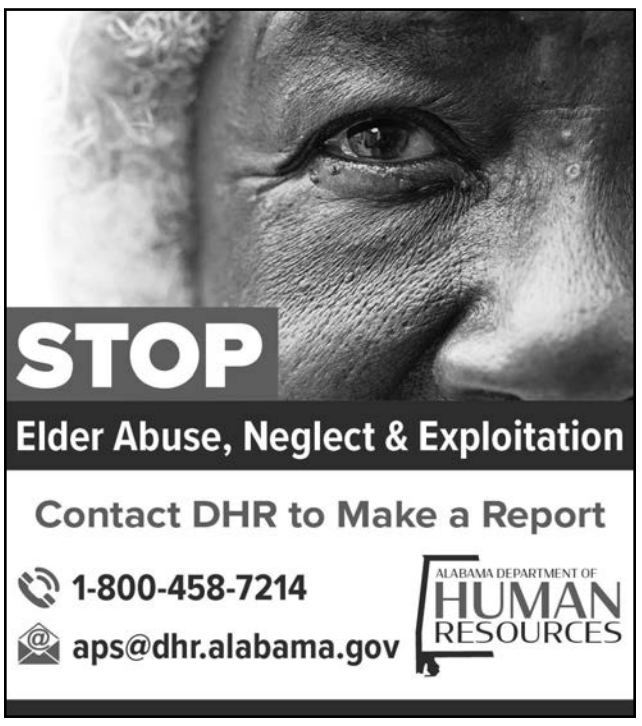
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www.JSEAL.com





Doctoral Study PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Are you a Black father who experienced foster care as a child and now have a son?

Doctoral student Charles Ballard III is seeking participants for a voluntary and confidential study of Black fathers building relationships with their sons.

Contact: **charlesballardiii1154@gmail.com**

LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
JANIS PHILLIPS COLLINS) CASE NO.: PC 2026 - 292
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration have been granted to James A. Phillips and Patsy E. Baker, as Co-Administrators of the Estate of Janis Phillips Collins, deceased, on the 4 day of August, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, and that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

James A. Phillips
Petitioner

Patsy E. Baker
Petitioner

Shay Persall
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 Second Avenue SW
Cullman AL 35055
(256) 841-7800

Attorney for Co-Petitioners

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
SHIRLEY JEAN LEHMAN,) CASE NO. PC-2026-298
DECEASED.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Bernard Lee Lehman, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Shirley Jean Lehman, deceased, on the 4th day of August, 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.

Bernard Lee Lehman
Personal Representative of the Estate of
Shirley Jean Lehman, deceased

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

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

Beverly Paschal Poston (PAS001)
Attorney for the Estate of
Shirley Jean Lehman, deceased.
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256) 739-3970

Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate
Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SYLVIA JUNE ROPER HARE, Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC 2026-209**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Ashley Davis a/k/a Ashley Hare, as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Sylvia June Roper Hare, deceased, on the 27th 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.

Ashley Davis a/k/a Ashely Hare
Personal Representatives

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

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

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

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION OF CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION Notice is hereby given that the Cullman County Commission (the Commission) will meet in public session at 4:00 P.M. August 11th 2026, in the Cullman County Courthouse located at 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 105, Cullman, Alabama 35055, for the purpose of considering the transaction of business that may properly come before the Commission, such business to include, among other things, consideration of a resolution (the Authorizing Resolution) approving the execution and delivery of that certain Shopping Center Project Development Agreement (the Agreement), to be dated its date of execution, among Cullman County (the County), the City of Cullman (the City), and API Cullman, L.L.C. a Delaware Limited Liability Company (Developer). The terms of the Agreement address certain obligations of the County, the City, and Developer regarding the construction, development and operation, on approximately twelve (12) acres of real property located within the City (the Site), of a shopping center development (the Project). Under the Agreement, the County would be obligated to remit and pay to the Developer, from Net sales and use taxes (approximately 1.10%) on construction materials, derived from businesses located inside Cullman County, paid by the Company for the Project and received by the County in the amount not to exceed $96,491 and to be paid on opening day of the Project.

One-half (1/2) of the Net sales taxes (approximately 1.10%) realized upon taxable sales originating and collected from the operations of the Project during the life of this Agreement, excluding net sales taxes from the anchor tenant A0 illustrated on the site plan to the extent engaged in the sale of sporting goods, restaurants and any business relocating from an existing location in Cullman County. The rebate shall not to exceed $1,929,825 and is to be paid quarterly for a period not to exceed ten (10) years. Relocating business shall be defined as a business currently located in Cullman County that relocates to this Project.

Improvements to Swafford Road SW, Cherokee Avenue SW, and Main Avenue SW with input from the Company, subject to a maximum expenditure of Three Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars ($300,000.00) or forty percent (40%) of the total project cost. The expenditure may include in-kind work by the County for such improvements (the "Infrastructure Work"). The final decisions regarding said infrastructure improvements will be made by the city engineer(s).
If approved, the Agreement will be executed and delivered pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama, including, without limitation, Section 94.01 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022 (formerly codified as Amendment No. 772 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended). The County has determined that the development of the Project will substantially expand and enhance the prosperity, contentment, and general welfare of the County and its residents by, among other things, (i) aiding in the elimination and remediation of blight and similar effects resulting from underuse of the Site; (ii) promoting enhancement and adaptive reuse of a high-visibility area of the County; (iii) bringing substantial commercial activity to an under developed area and fostering the use and development of underutilized commercial properties around the Site; (iv) helping improve the appearance and vibrancy of undeveloped areas of the County; (v) expanding commercial activity within the County; (vi) facilitating the growth and development of commercial sites and developments around the Site; (vii) supporting and expanding industrial and economic development within the County; and (viii) expanding jobs and employment opportunities within the County. The business entities and individuals to whom or for whose benefit the County proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value are the Developer, API Cullman, L.L.C. Further information concerning the information in this notice can be obtained from the Commission at the offices thereof during normal business hours.

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,
Circuit Clerk

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

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD 2026-025

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF
MICHAEL WAYNE PRUITT, II
TO ADOPT R.J.C. a minor child.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: JESSIE DAVID CUNDIFF, BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF R.J.C BORN May 12, 2008

Please take notice that a *Petition for Adoption* to adopt R.J.C. a minor child (born on May 12, 2008, to Sabrina Pridmore Cundiff Pruitt) was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Michael Wayne Pruitt, II, 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 herewith the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 17th DAY OF July, 2026.

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.

Dean R. Smith
Attorney for Petitioner
421 Third Ave SE, Ste. 245
Cullman, Alabama 35055

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD 2026-026

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF
MICHAEL WAYNE PRUITT, II
TO ADOPT E.F.C. a minor child.

Case# AD2026026
PB RDT Book:74 Page:577
Recorded in Above Book at
07/20/2026 9:29AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: JESSIE DAVID CUNDIFF, BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF E.F.C. BORN February 28, 2011

Please take notice that a *Petition for Adoption* to adopt E.F.C. a minor child (born on February 28, 2011, to Sabrina Pridmore Cundiff Pruitt) was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Michael Wayne Pruitt, II, 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 herewith the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 17th DAY OF July, 2026.

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.

Dean R. Smith
Attorney for Petitioner
421 Third Ave SE, Ste. 245
Cullman, Alabama 35055

We would like to thank everyone for your incredible efforts in the search and return of Gary Calvert.

Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Cullman EMA, Cullman Emergency Medical Services, Rescue Agencies, Volunteer Fire Departments, numerous community volunteers, and many, many more.

The professionalism, speed, and dedication of all those involved working tirelessly in difficult situations resulted in Gary coming home safe.

We realize our situation could have ended much differently. However, with the work of these agencies and community members, our story had a happy ending.

Thanks to everyone involved in the search, the texts, calls, food, and prayers. We will be forever grateful.

The Calvert Family



Anna (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Anna is an approximately 2-year-old Anatolian Shepherd mix with a gentle spirit, a happy heart and plenty of love to share. She's The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

Anna has a low-to-medium energy level, making her an easygoing companion who is still ready for an afternoon of running and playing in a large yard. Friendly and welcoming, she never meets a stranger and happily greets new people as though they are already part of her family.

Beyond her playful personality, Anna possesses an especially caring nature. When someone has difficulty getting up from the ground, she calmly stands still and provides steady support without hesitation. Her patience, attentiveness and natural desire to help could allow Anna to become an extraordinary therapy or companion dog.

Whether she is offering quiet comfort or joining her person for some outdoor fun, Anna appears ready to form a loyal and lasting bond.

Anna's adoption fee is $130 and includes her spay, rabies vaccination, microchip, general vaccinations, dewormer and wellness examination.

To meet Anna, 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. You can also call 256-734-5448 or email cullmanimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

If Anna has already been adopted, the shelter has many other wonderful animals waiting for their own loving homes.

Obituary Announcements: Aug. 4-5

Nancy Bryan, 83
Nancy Bryan, 83, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loved ones on Aug. 3, at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Born March 15, 1943, in Cullman Alabama, to Lowell and Vivian Turner. Nancy grew up in the Jones Chapel area and married the love of her life Martin Wayne Bryan and was faithfully married for 59 years. Her home supplied a warm refuge for her kids, grandkids and great grandkids, where the door was always open and food was always in the fridge or cabinet! Nancy graduated from Wallace State cosmetology school and served the Sardis community as a beautician for 40 years. Her beauty shop was known for a pleasant atmosphere where she continuously offered joy and friendship to all her clients. She also loved to raise flowers, often supplying others with floral grave decorations among other things. Nancy was never shy about her faith in Jesus, standing ready to share with anyone the hope that was within her. She will be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and love for her family. Her outspokenness, laughter and loyalty were gifts to everyone who knew her!" Nancy was preceded in death by her Husband Martin Wayne Bryan, her parents Lowell and Vivian Turner and one sister and two brother in laws; Eva (Ezra) Woodard and Houston Bryan. She is survived by two children; Rhonda and Tim Bryan, grandchildren; Jeremy (Alana) Bartlett, Chris (Kristin) Bartlett, Wes (Patricia) Bryan and Jake (Haley) Bryan; great grandchildren; Michael (Riley) Bartlett, Lacie (Brady) Sherrell, Kole Bartlett, Jacee Bartlett, Madalynn, Malachiah, Judah, EttaGrace, Eden Bartlett, Peyton and Triton Bryan and Jaxon, Mia, Emma Bryan. four brothers; Dillard, Jerry, Ronald, and Randy Turner. two sisters; Elaner (Billy) Paris, Shirley Bryan. Along with a host of nieces and nephews. Services will be held at Sardis Baptist Church on Thursday August 6th at 2 p.m. Bro. Chris Bartlett, Bro William McClellan and Bro Barry Thomas officiating. The family will receive friends at the church from 12-2 p.m. prior to the funeral. Interment will be in the adjoining cemetery. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Jeremy Lee Barber, 48
Jeremy Lee Barber, age 48 of Vinemont, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2026, at UAB/University of Alabama Hospital. He was born, June 20, 1978, to Wilburn Barber and Linda Barber. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother's, Christopher Michael Barber and James Allen Barber; grandparents, Dorothy and Joseph Carlisle. Survivors include his daughter, Ashlee Barber; son, Brayden Woodruff; aunt, Marie Hartwig; nephew, Christian Barber; sister-in-law, Shelia Barber and a host of friends. A gathering of friends will be held on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Dodge City Fire Department. The family has asked to bring a covered dish since Jeremy wishes were to eat and have a great time.

Jeraldine Walker, 94
Funeral Service for Jeraldine Walker, age 94 of Cullman, will be at noon on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Bro. Tim Aris officiating; burial at Crossroads Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10 a.m.-noon on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Walker passed away on Monday, Aug. 3, 2026, at her residence. She was born, Feb. 19, 1932. She was preceded in death by her parents, Grady and Claira Mitchell; husband, James Earl " J.E." Walker; sons, Mitch Walker and Phillip Walker; daughter, Vicki Walker; four sister's and one brother. Survivors include her daughters, Kathy Walker and Lisa Boothe; grandchildren, Brandie, Jeremy, Adam, Kelly, Jarod, Jessica, Saige, Lindsay and Kristi; 18 great grandchildren; nine great great grandchildren; 1 great great great grandchild and a host of family & friends. Pallbearers are, Adam, Jarod, Jeremy, Gary, Kyle and Mike.

Franklin D. Butts, 92
Funeral services for Franklin D. Butts, 92, of Walter, Alabama will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026, at the Hanceville Funeral Home. Burial will follow at the Duck River Cemetery in Walter. Visitation will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. prior to the funeral service. Born in 1933 in Hanceville, Alabama, Frank spent much of his childhood working in the fields with his brothers, sister and mother to help support their family after the passing of his father in 1945. In 1954, Frank was inducted into the U.S. Army where he was trained as a radio operator. Prior to shipping out to serve in Japan, Frank married the love of his life, Nelda June Loyd — a partnership that would define the rest of his days. Following his return from Japan and discharge from the Army in 1956, Frank attended the Alverson Draughn Business College, and in 1957 began a 33+ year career with the Standard Oil Company, which is now known as the Chevron Corporation. During his career, Frank excelled in many roles and eventually became a Supervisory Analyst. His profession took him to live and work in several states, including Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee and Georgia. During his career, Frank and June also raised two sons. In 1991, Frank retired from Chevron and he and June returned to Walter, Alabama, just a stone's throw from where they had each been born, to build their forever home. Once it was completed in 1994, they began traveling. Over the next 20 years, Frank and June made multiple months-long trips to Alaska and destinations across the continental United States, reviving a family camping tradition from when their sons were young — a tradition that brought him joy throughout his life. In 2014, June was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and Frank became her primary caregiver. He cared for her with unwavering devotion, fulfilling this new life challenge with the same strength, resolve and tenderness he had shown throughout his life, all the way back to when he lost his father at the age of 12. Frank is survived by his son, Stuart (Claudia) Butts; granddaughter, Kylie Butts; grandson Sean Butts; and a host of nieces and nephews. Frank is preceded in death by his wife of 65+ years, June (Loyd) Butts; his son, Steven Butts, and his parents, John Wesley and Rosa (Staton) Butts. Frank was known for his steady kindness, quick humor and the way he made everyone feel welcome. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered by those who loved him. His legacy of love, resilience and kindness lives on in all who knew him.

Joyce Marie Ballard, 66
Funeral service for Joyce Marie Ballard, 66, of Crane Hill will be 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 6 at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Hopewell Cemetery. Visitation was Wednesday, Aug. 5 from 5-8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Joyce Marie Ballard went to be with her Lord and Savior on Aug. 3, 2026, surrounded by family. Born on Sept. 24, 1959, Joyce was the daughter of Jessie "Buster" Cochran and Daisy May Davis-Cochran. She was a member of Hanceville Assembly of God and loved her church family deeply. No name could have suited Joyce more. She had a remarkable ability to find the blessing in even the hardest trials and to hold on to joy when circumstances gave her every reason not to. Her heart remained full of faith in God and gratitude through every season. Joyce was strong, generous, and full of life. She loved to laugh, never met a stranger, and had a gift for making others feel welcome wherever she went. Her family was her greatest joy. She believed deeply in the people she loved, saw their strength even when they could not see it themselves, and never stopped believing in who they could become. Joyce encouraged her children to be generous, to treat others as they wished to be treated and to pursue their goals. She also led by example, returning to college in her forties while working full time and earning her associate's degree. Joyce especially cherished her grandchildren, treasured every moment with them, and took great pride in the people they were becoming. During her final days, Joyce was lovingly cared for by her husband, who considered it a privilege to return even a small portion of the love and care she had given him throughout their life together. They would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 24, 2026. Joyce is survived by her husband, Hobert Ballard; her children, Amanda Bentley, Brandy Pratt (Sam), and Adam Ballard (Laura); seven grandchildren; one great-grandson; and her sister, Shirley Hodge, and many loved nieces and nephews. And of course, Teddy, a sweet Yorkie, who managed to win Joyce over despite her vow to never love another fur baby after losing her precious Pomeranian, Remshot. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jessie "Buster" Cochran and Daisy May Davis-Cochran; her sisters, Mary Jane Ashwander, Betty Long, and Elaine McDowell; and her brother, Billy Cochran. Generosity and love for others were at the very center of who Joyce was. To honor that legacy, we invite donations in her memory to the Good Samaritan Clinic of Cullman here Donate Now or by mail at 401 Arnold Street NE Suite A, Cullman, AL 35055 Serving as pallbearers will be Adam Ballard, Austin Ballard, Skyler Lynn, Johnny Ashwander, Johnny McDowell, and Brett Jacobs.

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

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

100% Locally Owned & Operated by Steve and Hilda Rodgers

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Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.cullmanfuneralhome.com

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1901 Second Avenue Northwest
734-1821 Service You Can Count On

Cullman Marble & Granite Co.
"Memorials of Quality Since 1910" 734-2353

FREE OBITUARY LISTINGS

HAVE YOUR FUNERAL HOME CONTACT US

Email: obits@cullmantribune.com

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