

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 153 • 50¢ PER COPY | *SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026* | USPS 139-700 • NO. 95

SUBSCRIBE TODAY



TRIBUNE.STORE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Jason Earl Adair, Bonnie Jean Bradford, Julius Gladston Willcutt, Deborah Jane Thrower, Sandra M. Ganus, Anthony 'Tony' Hardy

» PAGE 8

WEATHER

88 71

SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV

SUNNY THEN CHANCE T-STORMS

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 3

Games
» PAGE 7



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

— SPORTS —

Veteran QB, offensive line looking to take Meek back to the playoffs

» PAGE 4

7 93888 98541 4

Former Cold Springs coach Paige Adams pleads guilty: Sentenced to 7 years, will serve 1 year in prison

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Former Cold Springs High School teacher and head girls' basketball coach Paige Parker Adams pleaded guilty Thursday to two felony school employee sex offenses and three counts of distributing obscene material to a student.

Cullman County Circuit Court Judge Emily Johnston accepted the negotiated plea agreement and sentenced Adams, 35, to 84 months, or seven years, in the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Under a split sentence, Adams must serve 12 months in prison day for day. She will then complete 36 months of supervised probation, according to the plea agreement and a statement from Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker.

The court also ordered Adams to register under the Alabama Sex Offender Registration and Community Notification Act as a result of the two felony convictions. She must surrender her teaching certificate.

Under the agreement, Adams pleaded guilty on the first count to a lesser-included Class C felony » PAGE 4



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Paige Parker Adams

CHS opens new STEM and career tech center



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Cullman City Schools on Friday, Aug. 7, 2026, officially cut the ribbon and opened the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and career tech center at Cullman High School.

Staff Reports
Contributor

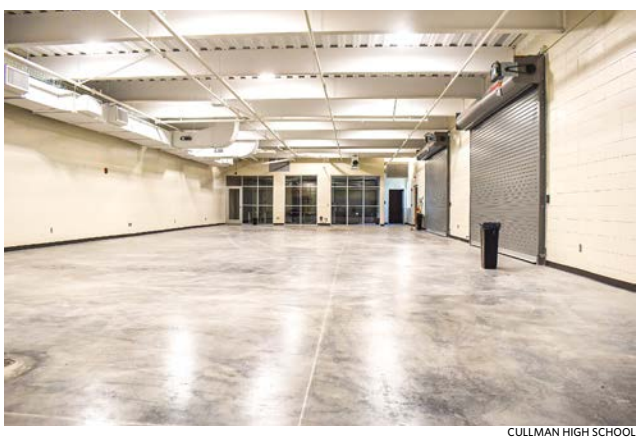
CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman City Schools on Friday, Aug. 7, officially cut the ribbon and opened the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and career tech center at Cullman High School.

Officials with Cullman City Schools, the City of Cullman and local agencies assembled at Cullman High to formally open the new center, which consists of a new, two-story wing located behind the agriculture class/shop on Fourth Street.

"I have so much gratitude for the many people it took to turn this vision into a reality," CHS Principal Allison Tuggle said. "It will allow students the opportunity to develop hands-on expertise and earn certifications in career tech fields."

Officials partnered with Mazda and Toyota, among others, to ensure the curriculum and training will directly fill the needs of area industries. The system has developed programs that are aligned with local industry needs, with courses of study focused on engineering, computer science, health science, cybersecurity, educators and training, animal sciences and marketing.

"The future is bright for Cullman City Schools and I can't wait to see what the future holds," Cullman City Schools Director of Academic Affairs Lindsay Brannon said.



CULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

The new facility provides cutting-edge space for STEM programs, cybersecurity, health science, educators and training, computer science and marketing classrooms. The project also includes 3,900 square feet of dedicated space (on the lower level) for modern manufacturing, as well as 150 additional parking spaces for students and staff.

"We're not just opening a new wing, but » PAGE 4

3 charged in Rosemont Avenue home invasion, robbery in Cullman



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Left to right are Gracie Goble, Zachary Harris and Miguel Hurtado Jr. » PAGE 2

Traffic stop leads to fentanyl trafficking arrest in Cullman County



CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Daffney Matline
» PAGE 3

City of Cullman Planning Commission recommends zoning changes for R-4 residential districts

» PAGE 3

Holly Pond Council talks park improvements, more

» PAGE 6

Fairview student Jesslyn White uses pageant platform to support children entering foster care



CONTRIBUTED

Cullman County Department of Human Resources Director Amy Smith, left, accepts a donation of coloring books from Fairview High School student and 2026 Junior Miss Alabama Princess Jesslyn White. The books will be given to children entering foster care in Cullman County. » PAGE 8



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Aug. 7

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Aug. 7, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Aug. 3

- harassing communications; CR 1338
- domestic violence; CR 1690
- harassment; CR 565
- reckless endangerment; Willow Bend
- criminal mischief; Beech Ave. SE
- harassment; CR 941
- theft of property; CR 1638
- harassment; CR 747

Aug. 4

- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 597
- menacing; harassment; Hwy. 278E
- obstructing governmental operations; CR 1486
- theft of property; CR 641
- harassing communications; CR 573

Aug. 5

- attempt to elude law enforcement officer; certain person forbidden to possess firearm; CR 490
- harassing communications; CR 1711
- domestic violence; CR 1630
- harassment; Buettner Dr.
- burglary; CR 1101
- burglary; CR 1711
- violation of protection order; Lipsey Ave.

ARRESTS

Aug. 3-5

Addison, William H.; 53
- family offense-NS non-support-child

Bates, Emily J.; 52
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- public intoxication

Boley, Shayne P.; 37
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Cesar, Julio; 35
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Dixon, Kayci T.; 33
- assault-child abuse-simply-family

Fanning, Nathan D.; 42
- public intoxication

Gillespie, Maranda M.; 42
- FTA – no plainly visible tag

Goodwin, Joseph G.; 36
- FTA – burglary-residence-no force
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, less than $500

Griffith, Nicholas J.; 46
- theft of any livestock which includes cattle, swine, equine or equidae, or sheep, regardless of their value

Hurst, Bradly J.; 41
- PROBATION REVOKED – burglary-residence-no force

Jones, Jason B.; 50
- GJ – assault-child abuse-simple-family

Lee, Robert L.; 33
- PROBATION REVOKED – unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance

Little, Robert J.; 37
- destruction of property by prisoner

McCombs, Blake H.; 32
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family
- PROBATION VIOLATION – assault-simple assault
- FTA – attempting to elude a police officer
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Mooney, Cheranda R.; 40
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Powell, Joseph D.; 29
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Powers, Michelle; 50
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of drug paraphernalia-1st offense
- PROBATION VIOLATION – promote prison contraband

Robbins, Anthony W.; 44
- PROBATION VIOLATION – resisting arrest
- PROBATION VIOLATION – obstruction-governmental operations

Shedd, Baylee M.; 28
- FTA – destruction of property by prisoner

Simmons, Mary E.; 75
- criminal trespass

Sims, Daffney M.; 60
- drug trafficking

Stewart, Johnny R.; 49
- obstruction-governmental operations

Weaver, Gregory S.; 49
- public intoxication

White, Roger A.; 48
- FTA – resident license-freshwater fishing

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Aug. 5
- theft of property; person; miscellaneous
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; miscellaneous; $11; Hwy. 157
- burglary-3rd degree; person; damaged door; $500; 3rd St. SE

Aug. 6
- theft of property-2nd degree; person; medication; St. Joseph Dr. NW
- unauthorized use of vehicle; UHAUL
- burglary-3rd degree; theft of property-3rd degree; person; jewelry; $700; Woodvale Dr. NW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $237; Olive St. SW
- assault-3rd degree; person; 1st Ave. SE

ARRESTS

Aug. 5-6

Baker, Bethany P.; 32
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – no seat belt

Fanning, Nathan D.; 42
- FTA – public intoxication (3 counts)
- FTA – disorderly conduct
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree

Hurtado, Miguel J.; 40
- robbery
- burglary-1st degree
- assault-1st degree
- theft of property-1st degree
- criminal mischief-2nd degree
- criminal use of defense spray

Smith, Joseph B.; 44
- theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

Riggs, Joanie R.; 47
- unlawful possession of controlled substances

Watson, Justina D.; 48
- unlawful possession of controlled substances
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Jones, Teresa M.; 62
- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

NOW HIRING TIRE TECHS
SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY
COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

Robbery (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Three people have been arrested in connection with a violent home invasion and robbery that left a Cullman resident with serious injuries, according to the Cullman Police Department.

The incident occurred July 31 at a residence on Rosemont Avenue Southwest.

Police said three individuals unlawfully entered the home, assaulted the victim and stole money and other property before fleeing.

Responding officers found the victim with serious injuries to the face and head.

Investigators used the department's FLOCK automated license plate reader system to locate a vehicle matching the description provided by the victim and witnesses. Police said information from the camera network helped identify one of the individuals involved and provided additional leads in the investigation.

The Blount County Sheriff's Office notified Cullman police investigators Aug. 4 that the vehicle had been found in Oneonta and two people had been detained.

The two were identified as Gracie Goble, 24, of Altoona, and Zachary Harris, 28, of Blountsville.

Cullman police investigators traveled to Oneonta and took Goble and Harris into custody.

Investigators identified the third person as Miguel Hurtado Jr., 40, of Altoona, on Aug. 5.

Cullman police investigators and Etowah County sheriff's deputies located Hurtado at a residence in the Altoona area. Police said he was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Cullman County Detention Center.

Goble, Harris and Hurtado are each charged with:
- first-degree robbery
- first-degree burglary
- first-degree assault
- first-degree theft of property
- second-degree criminal mischief
- criminal use of a defense spray

Police did not release additional information about the property taken, the type of defense spray allegedly used or the victim's current condition.

"This was a violent and deliberate attack, and I couldn't be more proud of the outstanding work by our patrol officers and investigators," Cullman Police Chief Joey Duncan said.

Duncan credited Investigators Hunter Riddlesperger and Nick Watkins with identifying and locating the three individuals.

"Their determination, attention to detail and relentless pursuit of those responsible simply would not stop until every suspect was identified and in custody," Duncan said.

Duncan said the FLOCK camera system and cooperation among several law enforcement agencies helped investigators bring the case to a conclusion.

He thanked the Blount County Sheriff's Office, Etowah County Sheriff's Office and Snead Police Department for assisting Cullman investigators.

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

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

HANDS-FREE DRIVING IS THE LAW
ALABAMA'S CODE OF THE ROAD
DriveSafeAlabama.org

STOP. LOOK. LOCK.
Prevent hot car deaths.
ChildrensAL.org/hot-car
Children's of Alabama · Safe Kids Alabama · ADECA

Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!
Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds
JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!
We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!
Free Phone Consultation
Call 1-256-850-0527
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

STOP
Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation
Contact DHR to Make a Report
1-800-458-7214
aps@dhr.alabama.gov
Alabama Department of Human Resources

Become an ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider
"Love Never Ages"
Alabama Department of Human Resources
1-800-458-7214
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC

Arrest (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A woman was arrested on a fentanyl trafficking charge after Cullman County sheriff's deputies reported finding approximately 4 ounces of suspected fentanyl during a traffic stop.

Deputies were conducting routine patrol Aug. 2 when they stopped a vehicle in the area of County Road 437, according to the CCSO.

The CCSO identified the driver as Daffney Matline Sims. According to court records, Sims is 60 years old.

The CCSO said deputies developed probable cause to search the vehicle.

They allegedly located approximately 4 ounces of a substance that field-tested positive for fentanyl, the CCSO reported.

The CCSO did not release the circumstances that established probable cause for the search.

Sims was arrested and charged with trafficking in fentanyl. She was transported to the Cullman County Detention Center.

"This arrest is another example of our deputies remaining proactive and committed to keeping dangerous drugs out of our communities," Sheriff Matt Gentry said. "Fentanyl continues to be one of the greatest threats we face, and our deputies will continue working every day to identify those responsible for bringing these deadly narcotics into Cullman County. I am proud of the outstanding work our deputies do to protect the citizens of this county."

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

Commission (from Front)

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The City of Cullman Planning Commission on Tuesday recommended zoning changes that would prohibit new detached single-family homes in R-4 residential districts and approved two short-form subdivision requests.

The commission forwarded a favorable recommendation on Ordinance No. 2026-43 to the Cullman City Council, which will hold another public hearing before taking final action.

Planning Commission Chairman Michael Sullins reminded those attending that the commission could only make a recommendation on the proposed amendment.

"Our job on that particular item is to make a favorable or unfavorable recommendation to the city," Sullins said. "The Planning Commission does not approve or deny ordinances."

The amendment would prohibit new detached single-family housing in R-4 districts. It would also update setback requirements and descriptions for R-1 and R-4 zoning, including detached single-family design quality standards, according to Sullins.

Sullins said the changes could affect city department workloads, economic growth and the physical appearance of the city. He also noted that the Commission and City Council plan to update Cullman's master plan with input from residents and surrounding areas.

No one spoke for or against the amendment during the public hearing.

The commission issued its favorable recommendation following support from Commissioners Jay Page and Elizabeth Gray.

Commissioners also approved a request from Murphy Oil USA to combine and divide three existing parcels under common ownership into two lots.

Murphy Oil USA will continue to occupy Lot 1, while Lot 2 will remain available for future commercial development.

No one spoke for or against the request during its public hearing. The request was approved following a motion and second from Commissioners Cheryl Harrison and Gary Pitzing.

The commission also approved Ben Harrison's request to divide six parcels on Third Street Southeast into two parcels.

City departments reported no issues with the proposal. The building department determined that both proposed lots would meet the minimum size requirements for the zoning district.

The request was approved following a motion and second from Gray and Commissioner Blake Bright. Cheryl Harrison abstained from the vote.

The commission approved the minutes from its July 7 meeting before beginning the public hearings.

The City of Cullman Planning Commission will next meet Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 5:30 p.m. in the Cullman City Hall auditorium.

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS

SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS

SFTWI
PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

VIRGIL B. FOWLER
Real Estate and Insurance
AGENCY
Quality Since 1935
734-3821
vbfowlerinsurance.com
Successors to
WILLIAM RICHARD & SON INSURANCE
" Established 1885 "
Virgil B. Fowler 1895-1978 - Virgil B. Fowler Jr. 1937-2019 - Dorothy S. Fowler - Jason S. Fowler

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
• 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.
• 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.

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 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

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Borden Family Pharmacy
Established in 1999
Borden FAMILY PHARMACY
bordenfamilypharmacy.com
256-734-7535

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: office@cullmantribune.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

CULLMAN.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

Noah Galilee - Publisher
Dustin Isom - Associate Publisher
Chasady Woods - Reporter
Lauren Estes - Reporter
W.C. Mann - Reporter
Gauge Day - Reporter
Anabelle Howze - Reporter
Lucas Gray - Varsity Sports Editor
Sammy Confer - JV Sports Editor
Rhonda Richie - Newsroom Manager
Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist

PREP FOOTBALL

Veteran QB, offensive line looking to take Meek back to the playoffs

Lucas Gray
lucas@cullmantribune.com

ARLEY, Ala. — To say it's been an impressive start to Daniel Evans' career at Meek High school would be a disservice.

In three seasons, the head coach has led the Tigers to three playoff appearances, two postseason wins and a 22-13 overall record.

Adding to that resume is not only the goal this season, but it's likely, as the Tigers return all but one starter on the offensive line, plus four-year starting quarterback Evan McCay.

Despite losing Aiden Benson, who played on both the offensive and defense lines and is now at Berry College, Evans said, "The offensive line is probably as deep as we've been in the last three or four years. We lost our best offensive lineman from last year (Benson), but we've got more guys. We had to get a lot of guys a lot of reps last year because we got hurt, and we had kids get hurt during the year at pretty pivotal times. So we've got young guys that are now going to be, you know, sophomores and juniors that've got a lot of reps under their belt because of the injuries that we dealt with last year. So we got about eight and nine guys that I feel comfortable with playing on the offensive and defensive line, which is a luxury."

The beefed up O-Line will give way to McCay, who helped run Evans' 21-personnel offense at an extremely high level in 2025, fueling the Tigers' 36 points-per-game mark.

He's the complete package at quarterback, with a deep understanding of the offense, decision making and has a good arm, but is also a weapon himself out of the backfield in run-pass options.

The offensive arsenal starts in the backfield next to McCay, with running back Hunter Wyatt returning and sophomore fullback Ethan Miles.

"(Hunter) Wyatt's kind of a do-it-all guy on offense and defense. He's played defensive line, he's played linebacker and he could play secondary for us if we needed him to, but he runs the ball real physically, he's put some weight on, too, so I expect big things from him this season," Evans said on Wyatt. He added, "Ethan (Miles) is only a sophomore, but he's got a lot of games under his belt. He's got a real football mindset, too."

On the perimeter, the Tigers expect contributions from Meek basketball star Parker Ferguson, who stands at 6-foot-6. Additionally, Evans named senior receiver Colby Williams as a player who's vastly improved both physically and mentally, and expects the senior to have a big impact this season.

After running a 4-4-5 scheme defense the last three seasons, the Tigers made a change, and have shifted to a 3-3 stack.

On the adjustment, Evans said, "It's taken some time getting used to that, but it's been really good for us. It lets us be a little more athletic up front and at the inside linebacker spot, and it also allows our secondary guys to basically see what's going on in the backfield and react to it. We feel more comfortable that way. So we've spent all summer installing that and getting that ready to go and we feel pretty good about it."

That stacked box features what the Tigers believe is the strength of the defense in their interior line and inside linebackers. It's a group Evans said they feel "extremely fortunate to have," with some of them having 25-30 games of varsity experience already.

"Don't sleep on the secondary, though," Evans said. While the group struggled at times last season, Meek believes the group, and the team as a whole, have benefitted from the 7v7 camps they've taken part in, as well as the scheme change.

The scheme's not the only thing changing, though, as the Tigers will walk into a reformed region that now includes Red Bay, a 2A playoff team last season and Belgreen, a recently-established program that took a drastic step forward from 2024 to 2025.

Meek's confident in their roster's ability to handle the change, plus any other challenges this season, mainly due to the work they've put in, with Evans saying, "We've just got some young guys that had to grow up last year for us, so they've got that experience now, but then they've got another year in the weight room and they're stronger and they're taller. We're bigger than we've been in the last couple of years, and it's a testament to them working their tails off in the weight room."



LUCAS GRAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Meek Tigers quarterback Evan McCay (left) and head coach Daniel Evans (right)

Adams (from Front)

school employee sex offense. She pleaded guilty as charged on the second Class C felony count.

Crocker described both convictions as felony counts of sexual contact with a student.

Adams also pleaded guilty to three Class A misdemeanor counts of distributing obscene material to a student. The remaining 27 obscenity counts were dismissed as part of the agreement.

The court imposed 84-month sentences on the two felony convictions and 12-month sentences on the three misdemeanor convictions. All sentences will run concurrently, meaning they will be served at the same time.

Adams will receive credit for time already served pending disposition of the case, as determined by the circuit clerk.

The plea agreement also requires Adams to pay a $2,500 fine, a $750 bail bond fee, a $25 juvenile day treatment fee and court costs to be calculated by the clerk. Payments are set at $150 per month and are to begin within 45 days of her plea or release from incarceration.

Crocker released a statement Thursday afternoon to clarify Adams' convictions and sentence after what he described as differing and sometimes inaccurate media reports.

"There are no winners in this case," Crocker wrote in a sentencing memorandum filed with the court. "Everyone who will be in court today for sentencing has lost something."

Crocker said Adams occupied a position of authority, confidence and responsibility as a teacher and coach.

"We are here because the law recognizes that relationships between educators and students are fundamentally unequal because of the inherent imbalance of power and influence," Crocker wrote. "That imbalance is precisely why this conduct is criminal."

Crocker said the case involved more than an inappropriate relationship.

"This case is not simply about an inappropriate relationship," Crocker wrote. "It is about the abuse of authority."

He said conduct of that nature damages the victim, the victim's family, the school community and public confidence in those responsible for educating children.

Crocker also asked the court to consider the need for general deterrence and the lasting effect on the student.

"Regardless of the victim's age or apparent willingness to participate, the law recognizes that students are off limits to educators," Crocker wrote.

The sentencing memorandum acknowledged that Adams did not have a prior criminal record but argued that her lack of previous convictions did not lessen the seriousness of the offenses.

Crocker also credited Adams for accepting responsibility and entering her guilty plea before the beginning of the upcoming school year.

He thanked Cullman County Sheriff's Office investigators and specifically recognized Lt. Ryan Fortenberry for his work on the case. Crocker also thanked the Alabama Department of Human Resources, Brooks' Place Child Advocacy Center and Cullman County Schools for their assistance.

The case became public March 25 when the Cullman County Board of Education accepted Adams' resignation during a special-called meeting. Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette later said the school system began an internal investigation after receiving a formal complaint and referred the matter to law enforcement. (www.cullmantribune.com/2026/03/26/cold-springs-coach-paige-adams-resigns-amid-investigation-case-turned-over-to-authorities)

Adams was arrested April 21 following an investigation by the Cullman County Sheriff's Office. She was initially charged with one count of a school employee engaging in a sex act or deviant sexual intercourse with a student, one count of a school employee having sexual contact with a student younger than 19 and 30 counts of distributing obscene material to a student. (www.cullmantribune.com/2026/04/21/adams-arrested-charged-with-sexual-crimes-with-student)

A Cullman County grand jury later returned a 32-count indictment. Count 1 was a Class B felony, Count 2 was a Class C felony and the 30 obscenity charges were Class A misdemeanors. The public court records did not identify the student. (www.cullmantribune.com/2026/06/25/paige-adams-case-enters-pretrial-stage-after-resignation-arrest-and-32-count-indictment)

Adams initially pleaded not guilty. Her attorneys later asked Johnston to dismiss the charges, arguing the school employee statutes were unconstitutional as applied to the case because the student was 18 and did not attend the school where Adams worked. The defense also argued Adams did not hold educational or extracurricular authority over the student. (www.cullmantribune.com/2026/06/25/paige-adams-case-enters-pretrial-stage-after-resignation-arrest-and-32-count-indictment)

The guilty plea resolves the criminal case before a scheduled hearing on the constitutional challenge.

Adams was represented by attorney Trent Lowry. Crocker signed the agreement for the State of Alabama.

Center (from Front)

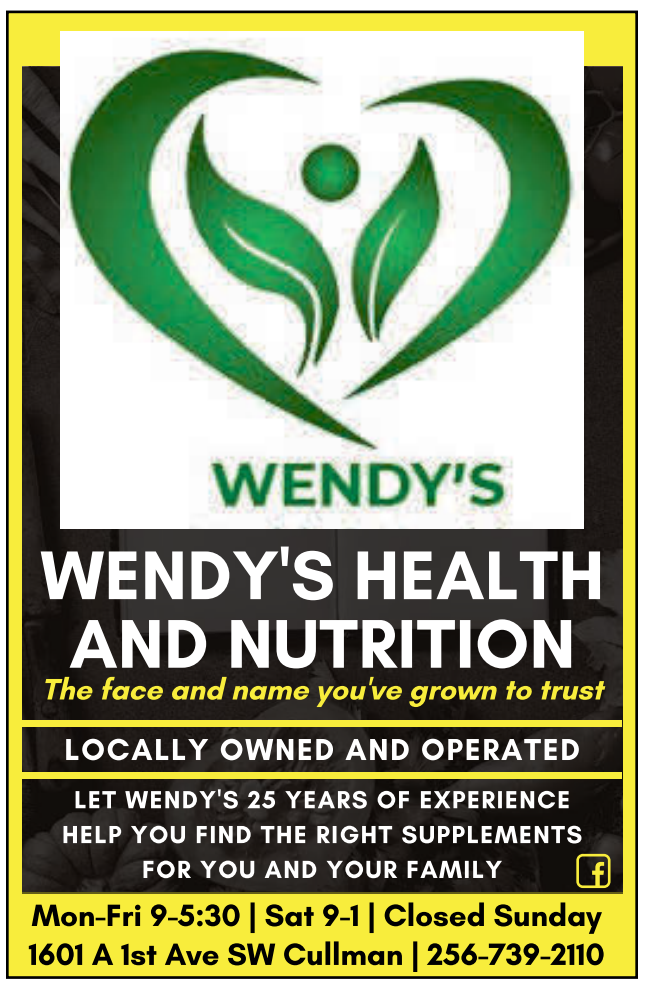
a door for students to walk through," Cullman City School Board President Jill Bradberry added. "This is more than just brick and mortar; it's a symbol of opportunity and innovation."

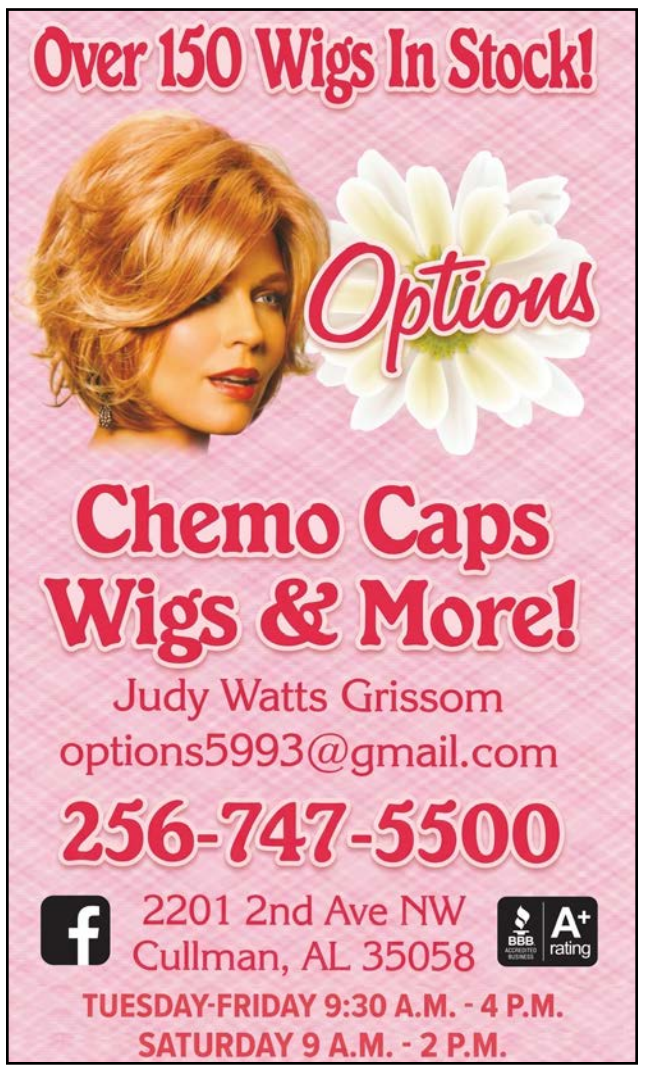
Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff thanked the various stakeholders involved in the project, including the School Board, Cullman City Council and leaders, as well as local business and industries involved in construction and planning.

The Board invited two career tech students who will directly benefit from the center — health science student Kaylee Johnson and engineering student Ezekiel Chaney — to cut the ceremonial ribbon.

"It's a tradition to have students cut the ribbon in moments like this, so we can all be reminded who we serve and who these innovations are for," Kallhoff noted.







August marks start of fall gardening season in North Alabama

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — August marks the beginning of the fall vegetable gardening season across much of Alabama, even as summer temperatures continue.

According to the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, gardeners in Cullman County can begin planting or preparing to plant beans, beets, broccoli, collards, kale, lettuce, radishes, squash, turnips and other vegetables during the month.

Planting dates vary by crop and region. Alabama Extension recommends that North Alabama gardeners consider local conditions, the crop's estimated time to maturity and the expected date of the first killing frost when developing a planting schedule.

Some vegetables may be planted during the first half of August, while others perform better when planted later in the month or during September.

Alabama Extension's vegetable calendar lists Aug. 1-Sept. 15 as the recommended fall planting period for beets in North Alabama. The recommended period for broccoli is Aug. 1-Sept. 1, while collards may be planted from mid-July through mid-October.

Recommended North Alabama planting periods also include Aug. 1-Oct. 15 for radishes, spinach and turnips.

Gardeners should consult the recommendations for each crop before planting.

Beans and summer squash may also be planted during part of August. Because both crops are sensitive to frost, they must have enough time to mature before cold weather arrives.

Alabama Extension recommends continued planting of beans and squash across the state during August. Gardeners in central and northern Alabama may also continue planting beets, carrots, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard greens, Swiss chard, parsley, radishes and turnips.

Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower and related cole crops require additional planning. In North Alabama, gardeners may transplant cole crops started during July rather than sowing every variety directly into hot garden soil during August.

Many fall vegetables produce their best flavor and quality as temperatures become milder. Fall planting can also extend the home harvest after tomatoes, cucumbers and other summer crops begin declining.

Before planting, Alabama Extension recommends removing spent summer plants, controlling weeds and preparing the planting area.

A soil test can help determine whether lime or fertilizer is needed. Extension specialists discourage applying soil amendments without testing because unnecessary fertilizer may damage plants or contribute to runoff.

Water management remains important during August.

Alabama Extension reports that vegetable gardens generally need 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week from rainfall and irrigation. Gardeners can use a rain gauge and check soil moisture to determine when additional water is needed.

Drip irrigation can deliver water directly to the root zone while limiting wet foliage, which may reduce conditions associated with some plant diseases.

Lawns and ornamental landscapes also require seasonal maintenance.

Bermudagrass and St. Augustinegrass may receive 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet during August. Alabama Extension recommends avoiding August fertilization for centipedegrass and zoysiagrass and ending warm-season turf fertilization by the close of the month.

Homeowners should adjust their mowing schedules so each cutting removes no more than one-third of the grass blade, according to Alabama Extension.

Signs that turf may need water include a grayish color, folded grass blades or footprints that remain visible after someone crosses the lawn. Extension specialists caution that excessive watering can increase runoff, mowing needs and susceptibility to insects and disease.

Heavy fertilization of trees and shrubs should be avoided during August. Fertilizer applied late in the summer may stimulate new growth that does not have enough time to harden before the first frost.

Hydrangeas, azaleas and certain other woody plants may be propagated through layering during the month. Hybrid tea and floribunda roses may also be pruned lightly to control uneven or excessive growth, but Alabama Extension advises against heavy pruning.

Blackberry growers may remove old canes after the plants finish producing fruit. Removing the spent canes allows additional space for the newer canes that will support future production.

Regular inspections can help gardeners identify insect damage, plant diseases and heat-related stress before those problems become severe.

Residents with gardening questions may contact the Alabama Master Gardener Helpline at 877-252-4769 or submit an online help request. The service connects residents with Extension-trained volunteers who provide research-based gardening information.

The Cullman County Extension Office is located at 1714 Tally Ho St. SW in Cullman. Office hours are 8 a.m.-noon and 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For local assistance, call 256-737-9386. Jason Somerville serves Cullman County in home horticulture, while Cullman County Extension Director Kira Sims works in home and commercial horticulture.

Cullman County 4-H opens new club year with agriculture, leadership and outdoor programs

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County 4-H has opened enrollment for its 2026-2027 club year, with activities planned in agriculture, cooking, wildlife, outdoor recreation, leadership and other areas.

The new Alabama 4-H club year began Aug. 1 and will continue through July 31, 2027. Dairy Club began its schedule Tuesday, Aug. 4, while community clubs and the Youth Leadership Council are expected to begin meeting in September.

School-based clubs and 4-H activities associated with the Cullman County Fair will begin in October.

Alabama 4-H is open to youths ages 9-18. Cloverbud programming is available for children ages 5-8 and focuses on cooperative learning, personal development and age-appropriate activities rather than competition.

Cullman County's schedule includes programs that will operate for several months as well as contests, camps and special events held at different points during the year.

Community Club meetings are planned for the third Tuesday night of each month from September through March.

Separate community clubs connected with Classical Academy and BBC will also meet monthly during that period.

Essay contests will include topics connected with peanuts during October or November and Arbor Day during January or February.

The Cullman County Fair will run Oct. 15-24, with livestock and pet shows included among the county 4-H activities. The fair's official calendar confirms those dates for its 2026 run.

Chicken Club will begin in January, with chicks expected to arrive in May.

Spring programming will include Wildlife Club meetings on Wednesday afternoons from March through May and Shotgun Club meetings on Wednesday afternoons from February through May.

Cooking Club will meet one Tuesday each month from January through March, with sessions scheduled from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

The Just Move Sports Club will meet one Monday morning each month from April through August.

A dairy poster contest is planned for April or May, while the Cullman County 4-H Roundup is expected to take place in April 2027.

Summer activities will include the Sweet Potato Challenge from May through September, with registration expected to begin in May.

The annual summer camp at the Alabama 4-H Center is planned for the final week of June. Cullman County 4-H also plans June day camps involving solar energy, robotics and Cloverbud activities, although exact dates have not been announced.

Additional summer opportunities include Regional Congress at Gadsden State Community College in May and RiverKids kayaking programs on selected dates from June through August.

Alabama 4-H describes its programs as hands-on learning opportunities intended to develop confidence, independence, resilience, leadership and practical skills.

The statewide program operates through the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and is present in all 67 counties.

New and returning members must enroll through the 4HOnline system for the 2026-2027 club year.

New families must create an account, select Alabama and Alabama 4-H Youth Development, choose Cullman County and add each participating family member. Members must select at least one club and identify the projects in which they are participating or interested.

Returning families may sign into their existing accounts and select "Enroll Now" beside each member's name.

Enrollment must be reviewed and approved at the county level before a member can register for certain events and training programs.

The Cullman County Extension Office is located at 1714 Tally Ho St. SW in Cullman. Kerri Roberts serves as an Alabama 4-H Extension agent, while Daphne Gilmore serves as a 4-H agent assistant in Cullman County.

For enrollment assistance or information about local clubs, call the Cullman County Extension Office at 256-737-9386.

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA
SHOP LOCAL



COUNCILMAN - Paul Schaffer | COUNCILMAN - Jason Willoughby | PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE - David Moss, Jr. | MAYOR - Woody Jacobs | PRESIDENT - Kim Hall | COUNCILMAN - Chuck Shikle

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

BRANCH BOOKS HARTSELLE
BRANCH BOOKS 2 CULLMAN
NEW AND USED BOOKS, DVDS, CDS, ETC.
BRANCH BOOKS 2 CULLMAN
256-754-5111
2308 PEAR DRIVE NW SUITE E
CULLMAN, AL
BRANCH BOOKS HARTSELLE
256-747-5331
701H NANCE FORD ROAD
HARTSELLE, AL
NOW WITH TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU BETTER!



Visit the Festhalle Farmers Market
April - October
Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 7am - 2pm

FEDERER FERTILIZER
GARDEN SEED
GRASS SEED
FERTILIZER
PINE STRAW
PEST CONTROL
WHEAT STRAW
INSECTICIDES
HERBICIDES
LAWN PRE-EMERGENT CHEMICALS
2471 COUNTY RD. 222 CULLMAN | 256-734-1226
OPEN MON-FRI 7:30- 5:00 SAT 7:30-12:00



Lucy's ON 3RD


Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 11 AM - 8 PM
Fri & Sat: 11 AM - 9 PM
Sunday: 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
256-739-9050 | 208 3rd Avenue SE

LIBERTYTAX
Thank you Cullman for
20 YEARS!
2006 2026
256-775-4097
Locally owned & operated • See office for more details

Holly Pond (from Front)

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. – The Holly Pond Council at its meeting on Monday, Aug. 3, discussed multiple park improvements and more.

Mayor Carla Hart announced that 16 new tables were ordered for the ballpark. The were slated to be delivered Aug. 4.

She also said concrete pads for Governors Park tables should be poured this week, weather permitting. In addition, the new sign for Governors Park has been ordered.

Cameras previously ordered for the surrounding areas have been received by Millennium IT Solutions and will be installed within the next few weeks.

Hart also reported she obtained a quote for the repair and repaving of Turkey Hop Road West for an estimated $41,800.

"We will take funds from part of the One Cent Account and the Rebuild Alabama account," the council wrote in its agenda.

Facia boards replaced and wrapped in metal at the concession stand building at Governors Park. Two pavilions in addition to the concession stand will be pressure washed.

"This aims to be completed this week or next," Hart remarked.

In new business, the council unanimously adopted its annual Rebuild Alabama Report.

"It's just a report where you tell what you're using and what our projected projects are to use the Rebuild Alabama money," Town Clerk Connie Moore explained.

In 2025, the town received $25,000 and the expected revenue for 2026, including road repairs and reconstruction, is $26,000.

For the last item of new business, the council approved Juneteenth as an official holiday.

When Hart prompted the council on the topic, Councilman Eli Howard stated, "If it is a state and federal holiday, it can be a Holly Pond holiday."

Since the next council meeting would fall on Labor Day, the council voted to change the date to Sept. 14. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in the Guy Hunt Library conference room.

LEGALS

Legal Notice

Surplus property of Wallace State Community College (Hanceville Campus) will be offered for sale on the website www.govdeals.com Various sales will occur on this website, please check the www.govdeals.com website weekly to see any current sales. This is a government auction website and you MUST be registered on the website to bid on any items. You may view the surplus property to be sold without registration. The govdeals.com website will contain detailed information including descriptions and photos. Items may be inspected by APPOINTMENT ONLY: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Contact Wesley Sams at inventory@wallacestate.edu to schedule any appointments. All items listed are to be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS". Wallace State Community College reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2026-038

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF GARY DEWAYNE REID and TAMMY BOHLER REID.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: Rodric Carr and Marilyn Carr
whose whereabouts and location are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of J.S.C., a minor child born on February 2, 2015, to Cedric Dewayne Carr and Jaclyn Suzanne Shaeyfelt Carr, was filed on the 29th day of July, 2026, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners Gary Dewayne Reid and Tammy Bohler Reid. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 6th day of August, 2026.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * JOHNNIEE LOU LEIGEBER, * CASE NO.: PC 2026-294 Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Tracy L. Hartwig and Derek Arthur Leigeber, as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Johnnie Lou Leigeber, deceased, on the 5th 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.

Tracy L. Hartwig and
Derek Arthur Leigeber
Personal Representatives

Shelbie G. Hankey
Attorney for Petitioner
200 Second Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

DOUGLAS IRVIN FARLEY, DECEASED. CASE NO. PC 2026-307

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF DOUGLAS IRVIN FARLEY, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Dorothy Farley Faulkner and Raymond Ellis Faulkner on the 6th day of August, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Dorothy Farley Faulkner and Raymond Ellis Faulkner,
Joint Personal Representatives

TO: Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith Attorneys, LLC
Attorneys for Joint Personal Representatives
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
e-mail: sherry@smithandsmithllp.com

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

RANDY JAMES WATKINS, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2026-260

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF RANDY JAMES WATKINS, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Betty Dean Smith on the 28th day of July, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Betty Dean Smith, Personal Representative (Administrator),

TO: 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
Smith & Smith Attorneys, LLC
Attorneys for Personal Representative
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.com

Legal Notice
In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, notice is hereby given that Blalock Building Company, Inc., Contractor, has completed the Contract for the Interior Renovations for Cullman Middle School located at 802 2nd Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055 for the State of Alabama and Cullman City Board of Education, Owner(s), and have made request for final settlement of said Contract. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify, Lathan Associates Architects, P.C., 300 Chase Park South, Suite 200, Hoover, AL 35244.

Blalock Building Company, Inc.
7309 Gadsden Highway
Trussville, AL 35173

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * VIVIAN DRUSILLA BUCKELEW, * CASE NO.: PC 2026-234 Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to NICKY WAYNE BUCKELEW AND PAULA MARIE BUCKELEW PERRY, as Personal Representative of the Estate of VIVIAN DRUSILLA BUCKELEW, deceased, on the 6th day of August, 2026, by the Honorable Perry D. Knight, Special 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.

Nicky Wayne Buckelew
Paula Marie Buckelew Perry
Personal Representatives

Betsy M. Harrison
Attorney for Petitioners
P.O. Box 339
Double Springs, AL 35553

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.

JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
SHERRY HODGES, CASE NO.: PC2023-182
Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING
VERIFIED MOTION TO COMPEL FINAL SETTLEMENT OF DECEDENT'S ESTATE

TO: DEVAN HODGES, BETH WOOD, MONICA ROBERTS and all Known and Unknown Heirs of the estate of SHERRY HODGES, deceased.

The *Verified Motion to Compel Final Settlement of Decedent's Estate* has been set for hearing on **22nd 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 6th day of August, 2026.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
STEVE LUTHER SUTTER, * CASE NO.: PC 2026-215
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO: STEPHANIE PHILLIPS, LAYLA QUIN, STEVEN SUTTER and ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES OF GEORGE CARROLL COLE

Petition for Probate of Will, filed by Debbie Sutter f/k/a Debbie Kay Travis Davis, Personal Representative, through Attorney Dan J. Willingham has been scheduled for the **10th day of September, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 28th 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 is said newspaper and send Proof of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Dan J. Willingham
Attorney for Personal Representative
413 First Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35056

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

ROLAND HANKEY, DECEASED CASE NO. PC 2026-289

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

THE ESTATE OF ROLAND HANKEY, DECEASED.

Letters of Administration of said deceased have been granted to Tyler Hankey on the 28th day of July, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Tyler Hankey, Personal Representative (Administrator),
and
Steven C. Smith, Attorney for the Estate

TO: Publisher of *Cullman Tribune*:

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056-0398
Phone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
e-mail: steve@smithandsmithllp.com

1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Re the Estate of)
Juanita Jackson,) Case No. PC 2026-293
Deceased)

Notice to Creditors

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Lamarr A. Jones as Personal Representative of the Estate of Juanita Jackson, deceased, on the 6th day of August, 20 26, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate,

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

Personal Representative
Lamarr A. Jones

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, Tammy Brown
Cullman County, Alabama

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 834
Hanceville, Al 35077
256-352-2090

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Case# AD2025032
PB ADT Book:74 Page:605
Recorded in Above Book and P
07/22/2026 2:03PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ADOPTION THE PETITION OF
WILLIAM JOHNSTON and
LOIS JOHNSTON,
FOR THE ADOPTION OF

CASE NO.: AD 2025-032

X.I.P. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 8/23/2012

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: LUCAS EDWARD PAYNE, BOILOGICAL FATHER WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN

Please take notice that a *Petition for Termination of Parental Rights and Adoption of Child* to adopt X.I.P. a minor child born on August 23, 2012, to Melissa Leigh Bates Wilson, was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by William Johnston and Lois Johnston, Petitioners. If you should contest this adoption, 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 are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 22nd DAY OF July, 2026.

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

Pamela E. Nail
Attorney for the Petitioners
200 2nd Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY
500 2nd Ave SW
Room 303
Cullman, Al 35055

Caitlyn Robinson
(PLAINTIFF)
VS CASE NO: SM-2026-900433
David Keith Chandler III
(DEFENDANT)

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAW SUIT

DEFENDANT(S), David Keith Chandler III, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him/her by the PLAINTIFF, Caitlyn Robinson, for $3,400.00 plus court cost, cause of action being: Money provided defendant for rent

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 5th day of September, 2026, or a default may be rendered against him/her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 24th DAY OF JULY, 2026.

LISA MCSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Mullins Body Shop
11042 US Hwy 31 South
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-1353

Sale Date: 10/06/2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.

VIN #	Year	Make	Model
19VDE1F76DE012303	2013	ACURA	ILX
WBABW334X6PX86166	2006	BMW	325Ci
1G1AT58H197211451	2009	CHEVROLET	COBALT
2G1WB57K391138909	2009	CHEVROLET	IMPALA
1GNEC13V34J321399	2004	CHEVROLET	TAHOE
3C4PDCAB3ET102195	2014	DODGE	JOURNEY
3C4PDCAB8FT617453	2015	DODGE	JOURNEY
3FAHP07Z28R271355	2008	FORD	FUSION
1FA6P8TH3J5114039	2018	FORD	MUSTANG
1FTCR10A7VTA93865	1997	FORD	RANGER
1FMZU67K14UA22346	2004	FORD	SPORT TRACK
JHMCP26898C010214	2008	HONDA	ACCORD
JHLRE38367C005885	2007	HONDA	CR-V
5NPE34AF1KH814512	2019	HYUNDAI	SONATA
KMHHM65D13U072517	2003	HYUNDAI	TIBURON
5XXG64J27MG038205	2021	KIA	K5
KNDJT2A57D7764913	2013	KIA	SOUL
JKAENVC145A189868	2005	KAWASAKI	MOTORCYCLE
JM1BK12F381813297	2008	MAZDA	MAZDA 3
1YVHZ8DH4C5M11524	2012	MAZDA	MAZDA 6
1N4AL2AP5CN436892	2012	NISSAN	ALTIMA
2G2WR554461239030	2006	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX
2G2WP552961277339	2006	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX
JS1GN79A362102162	2006	SUZUKI	600
5TDZK3EH6CS076082	2012	TOYOTA	HIGHLANDER
5TDYK3EH6DS139033	2013	TOYOTA	HIGHLANDER
5TDYK3DC4FS612484	2015	TOYOTA	SIENNA
3H3V532C7FT594164	2014	HYUNDAI	53 FT TRAILER
77154723512	UNKNOWN		53 FT CONTAINER TRAILER
1JJV532W93L837530	2003	WABASH	53 FT CONTAINER TRAILER
NO VIN	UNKNO	WABASH	53 FT CONTAINER TRAILER
1JJV532WXWL475003	1998	WABASH	53 FT TRAILER
77154723512	1997	CONTAINER	CONX BOX
1GRAA062X6W706043	2006	GREAT DANE	53 FT TRAILER
YV1FA8847L1460293	1990	VOLVO	740
JYAVM01E76A095577	2006	YAMAHA	V-STAR

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Playing in the church cemetery

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



The games we played when I was growing up were quite different from those children play these days. For one thing, we usually played actual physical games rather than computerized games. We had never even seen a computer or a cell phone back then, so we certainly didn't play on them.

One of our favorite games was one we played at church almost every Sunday evening, when the weather permitted. It was a game called "freeze tag." We normally played it on the front lawn of the church. We played several variations on this game. The one I remember best was where we chose one person to be "It." The "It" person chased everyone else around as he/she tried to tag them and shout "Freeze!" The tagged person then had to stand in place without moving until he was tagged by another person who shouted "Unfreeze!"

The objective of the game was for the "It" person to freeze everyone else before someone else could unfreeze them. In one version of the game, we had a safe base. That was usually our big brick church sign. If you could get to it and touch it without getting tagged first, you were safe, or off limits from being tagged. If everyone made it to the base, "It" lost the game.

We had a large church cemetery right beside the church. Sometimes, in the longer daylight days of summer, we played tag in the cemetery.

One of the taller upright tombstones served as our home base. This version of the game usually ended abruptly when one of our parents came out and scolded us for playing in the cemetery. Sometimes that came with a lecture about having respect for the deceased.

Running on top of the graves was not thought to be proper. Sometimes we tried to run around them, rather than over them, but you know what they say about the shortest distance between two points.

One of my first pastorates came while I was still a young seminary student. The church had a new cemetery.

They had erected a chain-link fence around a large area which they had set apart for the cemetery. Because the cemetery was new, only about a half-dozen or so people had been buried in it. All of those were on one end and the rest of the fenced in area was vacant.

Our small church did not have a youth minister, so since I was not much older than the youth, I unofficially became the pastor/youth minister. I was still young enough to play games with them, and one of our favorites was football. We didn't play freeze tag, but we did play tag football.

Guess where the largest flat and unobstructed area of the church was located? Even I, as the pastor, saw no harm in playing football in the cemetery as long as we were not playing on top of the grave area. Most of the other adults did not share my opinion. The dressing down this young pastor and our youth received reminded me of the scolding I had gotten as a child for playing freeze tag in the cemetery. Once again, I was informed that we should have respect for the deceased.

You know what? The adults were right...in both cases. We certainly should have respect for the deceased. In fact, we should have respect for the living, too. I'm afraid far too many of us today, young and old, do not show a proper amount of respect. A good dose of being thoughtful toward others, in a cemetery or wherever, certainly would not do us any harm.

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com.

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Aug. 8, 1957

From the files of Aug. 8, 1957

Out-of-Town Guests Honored at Luncheon

Three out-of-town guests, Mrs. Harold McIntosh (Bertha Brannan) of Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. J. E. Marion and Miss Sue Marion of Winston Salem, N. C., were honored at a luncheon at the All Steak King Edward Room on Monday.

Hostesses were Mrs. Herman Buettner, Mrs. Herman Lee and Mrs. Flora Rogers.

The tables were decorated with ivy and lilies.

Included in the guest list were Mesdames Steve House, Clarence Brunner, Adam Turner, Wm. O. Buettner, Sr., H. Clay Smith, John Shannon, G. W. Bledsoe, Henry Young, Dorsey Plunkett, Henry White, Ed Bottcher, Opal Glasscock, J. W. Arnold, W. J. Hamner, Jimmy Barnes, W. W. Newman, Homer F. Mitchell, Maude Patrick, Roy Drinkard, George Fehler and Misses Dovie Ruehl, Mary Kelley, and Eula Phillips, and the honor guests.

Garden City News

Mrs. Ray Price and children, Debbie and Gene, spent Wednesday in Cullman as the guests of her aunt, Mrs. Otto Pichelmeyer and her grandmother, Mrs. R. W. Quattlebaum.

Motoring to Sumiton Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Waters. They returned home Monday and were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Layton Green, who are spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Waters.

Major and Mrs. Burt Farmer and Mrs. L. E. Cook were Wednesday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Green in Hanceville.

Dr. and Mrs. S. A. Price and daughter, Ann, of Birmingham spent Wednesday afternoon with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Price.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben McKenzie spent Saturday in Cullman with their son, James A. McKenzie.

Returning to Champaign, Ill. Friday night after spending six weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Price, were Mrs. Bill Brown and children, Bob and Mike.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Knighten and family will regret to know that they have moved from Garden City to Cullman where they will make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollice Jones and daughter, Linda and Mrs. Nita Jones of Trafford were Saturday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ambers Lee.

Ulyess Bowman who has been in Korea for sometime has just completed a thirty-eight day leave with his family, and left Friday for Ft. Knox where he is now located.

Capt. and Mrs. J. B. Anderson and children of Birmingham were Thursday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Carthel Helms.



PLAN CLUB YEARBOOKS — Officers of the Lake and Hills Garden Club are pictured recently at the home of Mrs. Cal Leeth when they met to plan the club's yearbooks. They are (left to right) Mrs. Lon Waters, treasurer; Mrs. Warren Nesmith, secretary; Mrs. Cal Leeth, president and Mrs. Lester Holmes, vice-president.

Mr. and Mrs. Alston Branscomb of Sheffield were Sunday guests of her mother, Mrs. L. E. Price.

In the absence of the regular pastor of the Congregational Church Sunday, three of the P.F.C. members had charge of the morning worship. Those participating were Glenda Washburn, Peggy Seibert and Mary Chappell.

Mrs. L. E. Cook and her guest, Miss Martha LaBoone, of Athens, Ga. accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. George Green of Hanceville, drove to Birmingham Saturday afternoon where a most enjoyable afternoon and evening were spent in sightseeing.

Ex-Cullman People Picnic In Michigan

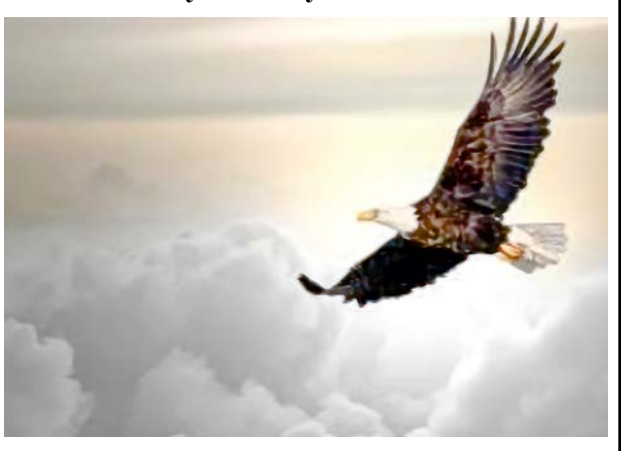
The third annual picnic of Ex-Cullmanites now living in Michigan was held recently at Forrest Park in Flint, Mich.

Enjoying the picnic were Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Burks, Carolyn and Rachel, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nesmith, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Morris, Bobbie and Rickie Edge, Mr. and Mrs. Huey A. McGriff and Joyce Ann, Mr. and Mrs. James D. Jordan, Leslie Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Omar B. Thomas, Corine and Randal, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Swager and Paula Dian, Mr. and Mrs. Audrey Boatright and sons, Mr. and Mrs. George Minor, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moore, Dian and Steve, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ray Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Emitt Armstrong and Lonnie, Major Oden, Burd Wisner, Mr. and Mrs. Hoke Hart and Hoke Jr. and Mrs. Bruce Walls.

POET'S CORNER

With Wings as Eagles

By: Randy C. Hale



This morning, my father is calm.
One might think he is himself, except
the asked questions he should know.
His dementia has progressed the
past six years, requiring my sister
and I to always be nearby.
Sometimes his care is almost
unbearable and keeping him safe,
near impossible.

He has been the toughest man I've
ever known, hardworking and loyal, embracing a soft side towards his family, and filled with humor and fun.
We continue for these moments
to see his face without confusion,
his playful smile, and to hear the whimsical sayings he is so capable of rendering.

I read that when an eagle is old that
it flies toward the sun to rejuvenate
itself, to burn away the mist over its
eyes and free its old feathers, then plunging into the river to restore its youth. We press forward each day
as if we might expect from our father
the same.

"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run,
and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."
Isaiah 40:31

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

AUG. 8

O	T	U	M	M	I	E	S	S	K	D	I	S	H	S	D	X
C	E	W	I	E	W	N	N	V	I	N	E	D	U	S	T	O
B	I	L	L	I	S	O	P	P	O	S	E	D	G	P	F	J
K	S	A	M	N	I	U	I	W	R	E	P	N	E	L	A	L
N	G	R	E	T	I	N	N	O	F	H	U	E	I	I	D	A
O	O	T	I	E	V	S	H	K	X	L	I	C	L	T	E	D
W	I	S	T	L	I	A	C	I	D	P	N	J	E	T	S	M
K	O	P	O	L	E	E	M	M	M	U	F	E	A	O	A	S
P	E	N	E	I	W	L	O	U	O	P	O	H	E	C	R	T
F	A	I	R	G	S	F	L	C	U	O	R	I	A	D	K	E
Z	O	I	A	E	A	U	E	H	T	K	M	L	R	I	M	E
I	S	N	T	N	A	Y	C	A	H	E	A	L	S	I	L	P
P	D	A	D	T	A	R	U	H	S	D	L	O	G	S	N	A
S	R	E	J	A	R	P	L	O	O	K	S	T	E	A	O	G
Y	O	G	A	I	E	L	E	Y	Q	N	O	I	C	Y	N	E
B	V	G	Z	F	A	N	S	G	W	O	D	D	L	Y	E	G
Y	E	M	Z	K	E	N	F	O	R	C	I	N	G	K	U	C

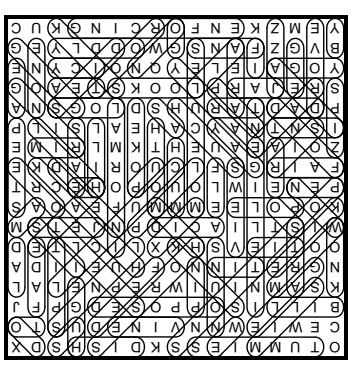
Acid
Age
All
Am
Area
Arts
As
Bill
By
Council
Dad
Dies
Dish
Do
Drove
Early
Ears
Egg
Elf
Enforcing
Era
Fade
Fair
Fans
Feed
Fond
Gale
Gang
Gay
Go
Hail
Hate
He
Hijack
Hill
Him
Horses
Huge
Icy
Idea
If
Informal
Intelligent
Isn't
Its
Jar
Jazz
Jets
Kite
Know
Lad
Logs
Looks
Lump
Lungs
Mix
Molecules
Mouth
Much
Nap
Need
None
Nouns
Oddly
Opposed
Ore
Own
Pen
Pin
Poked
Pole
Positions
Rate
Rim
Ring
Root
Silk
Sir
Slim
So
Spelt
Split
Steep
Such
Sunk
Tar
Tea
Tie
Tin
To
Tummies
Up
Us
Views
Vine
We
Won
Worm
Yoga
Zips

CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

AUG. 8

	8						9	5
5						3		
		4			3			
	6	9			7	4		
3	4	8		1				
					6			3
	7							
1		2					8	
4				2	9			1

ANSWERS:



6	8	3	2	7	4	1	9	5
5	2	7	1	9	8	3	4	6
9	1	4	5	6	3	8	7	2
2	6	9	3	5	7	4	1	8
3	4	8	9	1	2	5	6	7
7	5	1	4	8	6	9	2	3
8	7	5	6	4	1	2	3	9
1	9	2	7	3	5	6	8	4
4	3	6	8	2	9	7	5	1

Flourish of Cullman accepting applications for job coaches

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Flourish of Cullman is accepting applications for job coaches who will help individuals with differing abilities obtain, learn and maintain competitive employment within the community.

Full-time and part-time opportunities may be available, according to the nonprofit's hiring announcement.

Job coaches work individually with participants at businesses and other community job sites.

Their responsibilities include teaching job duties, workplace routines and professional conduct while helping participants develop independence, self-advocacy and problem-solving skills.

The position also requires regular communication with participants, employers, family members and agencies that refer individuals for services.

Job coaches must complete service notes and other required documentation while following the organization's confidentiality, workplace safety and incident-reporting procedures.

The opening supports Flourish's Work program, which provides employment assessments, job-readiness preparation, interview assistance, workplace coaching and long-term support.

Before a participant begins working, Flourish may help identify potential employers, complete applications, prepare for interviews and establish a work schedule.

The program may also help determine whether workplace accommodations are needed and assist participants with transportation, clothing and other employment-related needs.

Flourish reports that its employment services are supported through the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Applicants with experience working with individuals with disabilities are preferred, although the hiring announcement does not identify that experience as an absolute requirement.

Candidates should possess strong communication, organizational and time-management skills along with basic computer and electronic-documentation abilities.

The position requires a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and current automobile insurance.

Applicants must be able to travel throughout the organization's service area, lift up to 25 pounds and pass a criminal background check and drug screening.

Starting pay will depend on the applicant's experience working with individuals with differing abilities, according to a response posted by Flourish. The organization has not announced a specific hourly wage or pay range.

Benefits for eligible full-time employees include reimbursement of 70 cents per mile for approved work-related travel, paid training and employer payment of 50% of health insurance premiums.

Flourish was established in August 2016 after its founder identified a need for additional community-based services for individuals with differing abilities.

The organization provides Live, Work and Play programs intended to help participants become more independent at home, in the workplace and during social and recreational activities.

The Live program provides scheduled assistance with household organization, meal planning, budgeting, personal care and other skills associated with independent living.

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

Founder and CEO Melissa Dew said Flourish's supported-employment work is intended to help participants demonstrate their abilities while building lasting relationships with local employers.

Applicants should submit a résumé to melissadew@flourishofcullman.com.

For more information about Flourish of Cullman, call 256-735-4186 or visit www.flourishofcullman.com.



White (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Fairview High School student Jesslyn White is using her new state pageant title to support children entering foster care in Cullman County.

White, a rising sophomore, was recently crowned 2026 Junior Miss Alabama Princess and selected foster care as the community-service platform for her reign. The books will be given to children as they enter foster care.

White presented the donation to Cullman County DHR Director Amy Smith, who provided information about the project to The Cullman Tribune.

White selected foster care as the community-service platform for her reign after receiving a 2026 Little Miss Alabama princess title in the Junior Miss division.

The Little Miss Alabama program separates contestants into age divisions and crowns both queens and princesses. Titleholders are encouraged to select an issue important to them and use their reigns to participate in charitable projects and community appearances.

White said she hopes the coloring books provide children with comfort and a positive activity during what may be a difficult transition.

Her plans extend beyond the initial donation. White is working to create her own coloring book for children in foster care and plans to donate copies once the project is complete.

She also hopes to organize a tea party for girls in foster care and serve as a mentor to children who have goals and dreams of their own.

"Cullman County DHR would like to extend a giant 'thank you' to Jesslyn for her heart for foster children and for putting that heart work into action," the department said in information provided by Smith.

Alabama DHR reports that approximately 5,700 children are currently in foster care across the state. Some children remain in care only briefly, while others require longer placements as they await reunification with their families or another permanent arrangement.

County DHR offices administer foster care and other social-service programs at the local level with support from the state agency. Alabama DHR's directory identifies Smith as director of the Cullman County office.

In addition to her pageant activities, White is a majorette with the Fairview High School marching band. She plans to attend the University of Alabama and hopes to become a Crimsonette.

White intends to continue supporting children in foster care throughout her reign while encouraging girls to pursue ambitious goals.

Obituary Announcements: Aug. 6–7

Jason Earl Adair, 56
Jason Earl Adair, 56, passed away on Aug. 1, 2026. He was born on Dec. 6, 1969, and was a resident of Cullman, Alabama. Jason attended Cullman High School and was a hard-working man who earned respect through steady effort, Jason made his living as a carpenter and spent years remodeling homes. Through the work of his hands and the reliability of his presence, he became someone deeply beloved and will be missed by those who knew him.

Bonnie Jean Bradford, 87
Funeral service for Bonnie Jean Bradford, 87, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 9, 2026, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Sardis Cemetery, Bro. Sam Hollis officiating. The family will receive friends from 12:30-2 p.m. on Sunday. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Bradford passed away Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2026, at CRMC. She was born Feb. 11, 1939. She was a member of Good Hope Baptist Church. Bonnie enjoyed word and number puzzle books and sewing. She was a loving person, a wonderful wife and mother. She was preceded in death by her parents, the Pritchard's; a brother, Larry Pritchard; sisters, Lilly Flemings, Inez Tress. Survivors include her husband, Henry Eugene Bradford; daughters, Rebecca Sullins, Jill Elizabeth (Charles) Smith; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren, Sarah Smith, Magdaline Smith, Kylah Alfano; two great-great grandchildren; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Julius Gladston Willcutt, 79
Memorial Service for Julius Gladston Willcutt, age 79 of Crane Hill, was at 1 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 7, 2026, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Bro. Ron Collette officiating; Visitation was from noon--1 p.m. on at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Willcutt passed away on Sunday, Aug. 2, 2026, at his residence. He was born, Dec. 21, 1946, to Daniel Oliver Willcutt and Rovena Bates Willcutt. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lou Ann Willcutt; daughter, Angela Nichoel "Niki" Willcutt; great grandson, Colson Lynch; his parents; sisters, Dorothy Coshatt, Melba Pope, Lola Crabtree, Edna Parker; brothers, Edgar Willcutt and Wilson Willcutt. Survivors include his daughter, Greta Ann Lynch (Kevin); granddaughter, Laken Griffith (Glynn); grandson's, Chase Lynch (Jessica), J. J. Henke (Christy), Justin Henke; great grandchildren, Canaan Griffith, Winry Griffith, Samuel Griffith, Arwynn Griffith, James Henke, Oakley Henke, Paxton Lynch; sisters, Ann Sweatmon (Don) and Margaret Perkins. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Holly Pond Cemetery or Crane Hill Fire Department.

Deborah Jane Thrower, 73
Deborah Jane Thrower, age 73, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2026. Deborah is survived by her daughter Cortney Peed, son in law Jeremy; her son John Austin Hall, daughter in law Mallory; her beloved grandchildren, Easton Peed, Emery Peed, Finley Hall, Thatcher Hall, Quaid Hall, Yates Hall, and Truitt Hall. She is also survived by her two loving dogs, Bud and Piper. Deborah is preceded in death by her father Robert Thrower, Jr., her mother Dixie Thomas, her sister Holli Thrower, and the father of her children and best friend, John Roger Hall. Deborah was born in Huntsville, Alabama on May 28, 1953. She attended Arab High School and graduated with the class of 1972. During her high school years, Deborah traveled across the country performing as a majorette. Deborah went on to pursue a degree in education and proudly graduated in 1976 from Auburn University. She was a proud supporter of anything related to Auburn University. Deborah retired as a speech pathologist from the Cullman County School system. If you spent any time with Deborah, you would hear her bragging about her children and grandchildren. She was their biggest supporter. She was incredibly proud of each member of her family and loved them all dearly. Over recent months, Deborah battled health challenges that required chemotherapy and radiation treatment in Birmingham. She fought hard going to radiation daily for five weeks and chemotherapy once a week for five weeks. Ultimately, her body could not handle any more treatments, and she passed away peacefully at her home with Cortney and Austin by her side. Her survivors loved her unconditionally and know she is watching over them constantly now. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy for the family may be shared at https://www.cullmanheritage.com/m/obituaries/ Visitation was at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home from 2-3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7, with the funeral service immediately following at 3 p.m. Deborah will be laid to rest in Arab Memorial Cemetery in Arab, Alabama. Pallbearers for Deborah are Easton Peed, Thatcher Hall, Quaid Hall, Yates Hall, Landon Bagwell, Brett Johnson, and Adam McKinnon.

Sandra M. Ganus, 82
Funeral services for Sandra M. Ganus, 82, of Cullman will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Oak Grove Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday, Aug. 10, from 6-8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mrs. Ganus was born April 11, 1944, in Walker County, Alabama. She passed away Aug. 6, 2026, in Cullman County, Alabama. Mrs. Ganus, a beloved wife, devoted mother, cherished grandmother, and dedicated homemaker, passed away leaving behind a legacy of love, kindness, and devotion to her family. Sandra found her greatest joy in caring for those she loved. As a wonderful wife, she was a constant source of strength, encouragement, and companionship. As a mother, she lovingly guided her children with patience, wisdom, and unconditional love, creating a home filled with warmth and treasured memories. Her grandchildren were among her greatest blessings, and she delighted in every moment spent with them, celebrating their accomplishments and surrounding them with endless affection. As a homemaker, Sandra took great pride in making her house a welcoming home. Whether preparing family meals, offering a listening ear, or simply bringing everyone together, she had a special gift for making others feel loved and cared for. Her gentle spirit, selfless heart, and quiet acts of kindness touched the lives of all who knew her. Mrs. Ganus is survived by her husband, Jimmy Ganus; children, David Ganus, Crystal Ganus-Moss; grandchildren, Levi Ganus, Scarlett Ganus Boland (Shelton), Caleb Etheridge, Isaiah Etheridge; sister, Dorothy Ridley; brothers, Joe Conley, Kelly Myers; and a host of nieces, and nephews. Mrs. Ganus was preceded in death by her father, Roy Myers; mother, Louise Conley; sisters, Judy Fredrick; Glenda Furgeson; and her brother, Wayne Myers. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Ganus family.

Anthony 'Tony' Hardy, 63
Funeral services for Anthony "Tony" Hardy, 63, of Blountsville was at 3 p.m. Aug. 6, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow the service at Bethlehem East Cemetery. Visitation was Wednesday, Aug. 5, from 5:30-8 p.m. at Hanceville Funeral Home. Mr. Hardy was born Jan. 21, 1963, in Cullman, Alabama. He passed away Aug. 4, 2026, in Blountsville, Alabama. Mr. Hardy lived a life defined by faith, hard work, and love for his family. A proud United States Army veteran, Tony honorably served his country before embarking on a career as a truck driver, dedicating more than 20 years to the profession. His strong work ethic, reliability, and commitment to providing for those he loved were evident throughout his life. Above all else, Tony was a devoted husband and a loving father. His family was the center of his world, and he cherished every opportunity to spend time with them, offering guidance, encouragement, and unconditional love. His legacy will live on through the values he instilled in those closest to him. Tony was a God-fearing Christian whose faith served as the foundation of his life. He trusted in the Lord through every season, finding strength, hope, and peace in his relationship with Christ. His quiet testimony, kind heart, and steadfast belief were an inspiration to all who knew him. Mr. Hardy will be remembered for his faithful spirit, his dedication to his family, his honorable service to his country, and the many lives he touched through his kindness and compassion. Though he will be deeply missed, his loved ones find comfort in knowing he is at peace in the presence of his Savior. Mr. Hardy is survived by his wife, Rhonda Hardy; children, Dustin Hardy (Whitney), Robert "Bobby" Mayhall (Angela), Brittney Wise Mayhall; grandchildren, Alyssa Hardy, Paisley Hardy, Oliver Hardy, Carolina Mayhall, Levi Mayhall, Graclyn Zimmerman, Robert McDevitt, Octavia Casey, Austin Wise; siblings, Eddie Hardy, Veronica Griffin; step-brothers, Shawn Jones (Kelly), Jeremy Jones (Jennifer); step-dad, James Ronnie Jones, and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins. Mr. Hardy was preceded in death by his father, James Jerry Hardy; mother, Gracie Hardy Jones; sister, Rhonda Swann; grandparents, Arvell and Maggie Hooper, Fonda and Marie Hardy; step-grandmother, Peggy Jones; and his aunt, Fran Creel. Serving as pallbearers will be Eddie Hardy, Dustin Hardy, Bobby Mayhall, Shawn Jones, Jeremy Jones, and Frankie Pete.

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

(256) 734-3144
461 U.S. Highway 278 East
Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.cullmanfuneralhome.com

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.