Serving Our Area Since 1926
GRAF'S TIN SHOP
Heating, Cooling & Metal Work
CALL US FOR YOUR HEATING, COOLING, AND METAL WORK NEEDS!
MONDAY–FRIDAY: 7:30 AM–4:30 PM
256-734-3672
GRAFSTINSHOP.COM
100 YEARS IN BUSINESS

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 153 • 50¢ PER COPY | THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 103

SUBSCRIBE TODAY



TRIBUNE.STORE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

James "Jim" Glenn Peppers, Margaret Jo Gillespie Whitfied, Donnie Wayne McBrayer, Betty Jo Melton, Roy Henry Drinkard, Rufus Elwood Speakman, Joel Herbert Carter, Jr.
» PAGE 6

WEATHER

90 69
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
CHANCE SHOWERS AND AREAS FOG THEN SLIGHT CHANCE T-STORMS

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 2



WSCC

— SPORTS —

Wallace State names Jammie Lett head coach of men's golf
» PAGE 4

7 93888 98541 4

Falkville man charged in Duck River Boat Ramp vehicle break-ins

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A Falkville man has been arrested and charged in connection with the break-ins and damage of three vehicles at the Duck River Boat Ramp, according to the Cullman Police Department. Derek Wayne Halbrooks, 44, is charged with three counts of unlawful breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, two counts of third-degree criminal mischief and one count of first-degree criminal mischief.

According to the CPD, officers were dispatched to the boat ramp Aug. 4 after receiving a report that several vehicles had been broken into. When officers arrived, they located three vehicles with broken windows and other damage and spoke with the victims.

Investigators » PAGE 3



CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Derek Wayne Halbrooks

Remembering Roy Drinkard

Community members recall the man who helped shape Cullman

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Charles Hayes still has the $2 bill Roy Drinkard handed him at a Troy University football game.

"I met Mr Drinkard at a Troy football game and he gave me a two dollar bill with his picture on it. I still have it," Hayes wrote.

It was one of the personal memories shared following Drinkard's death Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026, at the age of 106.

Drinkard was a World War II veteran, businessman, developer, civic leader and the last surviving member of Cullman's Flying Fifty. At his death, he was recognized as the nation's oldest living U.S. Marine.

His influence could be measured through businesses, industrial recruitment, educational support and public service. Those who knew him, however, remembered something more personal: a first job, an old story, a family connection, a shared laugh or a small keepsake from a football game.

Jeannie M. Gallant remembered the humor Drinkard brought to their first meeting. She noticed one button on his shirt was undone and decided to button it for him.

"Note his shirt has one button not buttoned. The first time I met him I buttoned his shirt. He smiled. Kissed my cheek and whispered I always leave it unbuttoned so pretty girls will come close and button," Gallant wrote.

For family members, his death represented the loss of a connection across generations.

Shirley Bowman identified Drinkard as her cousin and recalled the connection he provided to her father, Jack Drinkard, who died in 1987.

"My heart is broken today, Mr. Roy was my cousin, I feel like I have lost my last connection to my father, Jack Drinkard. Daddy passed in 1987," Bowman wrote.

Bowman asked Drinkard to say hello to her father and tell him she still loved and missed him.

Cindy Reeve Dodds remembered Drinkard as a relative and supporter of Troy University.

"What a terrible loss for all of us. Mr. Roy was a wise business man that supported so many projects and we will certainly miss him at TROY UNIVERSITY!" Dodds wrote. "Rest easy now Uncle Roy."

Drinkard » PAGE 4



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Roy Drinkard attends the Little Pink Dress benefit in 2025.

Cullman Regional awarded $3.8M for residency program with focused obstetrics track



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Three Cullman County projects will receive a combined $4,226,240 through the first round of Alabama Rural Health Transformation Program grants announced Monday, Aug. 24, 2026, by Gov. Kay Ivey. The largest award, $3.8 million, will go to Cullman Regional Medical Center to establish a family medicine residency training program with a focused obstetrics track. » PAGE 5

Cullman man killed in Marshall County crash
» PAGE 3

Cullman County Schools offering free parenting support program
» PAGE 3

Community Plant Swap this Saturday at downtown library
» PAGE 2

PET OF THE WEEK

Sassy is ready to cuddle



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Sassy » PAGE 3



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Aug. 26

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Aug. 26, 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

Aug. 20

- doxxing; person

Aug. 24

- domestic violence-3rd degree; person
- criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; Olive St. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person

Aug. 25

- theft of property-4th degree; person; cash; $500

Aug. 26

- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Field of Miracles Dr. SW

ARRESTS

Aug. 24-25

Wallace, Amber M.; 48

- GJ – theft of property
- FTA – receiving stolen property-4th degree

Klosinski, Mary E.; 37

- FTA – domestic violence-3rd degree
- FTA – disorderly conduct

Morris, Anna E.; 25

- FTA – driving while suspended

Baker, Heath A.; 39

- criminal trespass-3rd degree

Dickey, Charles J.; 22

- domestic violence-2nd degree – stalking

Bryan, Staci L.; 49

- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Cullman Tree Commission looks ahead to park plantings, Festival of Trees

Leanne H. West
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Tree Commission is working on several projects that could shape how trees are planted, maintained and promoted around the city in the months ahead.

One of the biggest items discussed at the commission's Aug. 25 meeting was a plan for future tree planting in city parks. Commission Member Rob Werner has met with Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson and is working to find an arborist who can help with decisions such as tree placement and which species are best suited for different areas.

City Arborist Shane Bivins also gave an update on recent tree work around Cullman. Crews have been removing dead and dying trees, as well as trees located over important infrastructure that is being replaced. One such tree was a large, healthy pecan tree that unfortunately had to be removed because it was located directly over a deteriorated storm drain pipe that needed to be replaced.

The Commission also talked about what happens to trees after they are removed. Much of the material is taken to the city's green landfill, where it can be chopped and ground.

Planning is also continuing for the 2026 Festival of Trees. One scheduling issue still being worked out is the Tuesday, Dec. 1, setup date. Since Boy Scouts are expected to help with setup, the work will need to take place after school. Jason Fowler plans to follow up with the Scouts about the schedule.

Another recent project is now available to the public. The city's recommended and unrecommended tree lists have been posted on CullmanAL.gov to help residents, developers and others make better choices when selecting trees to plant in the city.

The newly opened Agriplex building will also be part of upcoming Tree Commission activities. The Cullman County Extension Office is now located there, and judging for the Arbor Day Poster Contest will take place at the facility.

Chairman Barry Slatton also plans to help again this year with the Cullman County Public Library's poetry contest, which he said is a good way to bring more attention to the Tree Commission and its work.

The Commission is also looking to build more involvement with other local groups. Slatton plans to seek input and support from the Cullman City Council, Cullman Area Tourism Bureau, Cullman Planning Commission and other community partners.

The Cullman Tree Commission meets every even numbered month on the third Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at Cullman City Hall. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 10 a.m.

Swap (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Public Library will host a Community Plant Swap on Saturday, Aug. 29, from noon-12:30 p.m.

Assistant Director Shelby Creekmore said the event was planned by a local individual, but the library is happy to play host for such a fun event.

"Danielle Holder put this event idea together and reached out to us on Facebook," Creekmore said. "We're proud to host this program and hope it brings people together."

Holder said the theme is "Bring a plant — take a plant" and she is excited to host the event at the library for a third time after a great turnout previously.

"The first time we had this event was in February of this year and I have put it together every three months," Holder said. "The idea came after I took up gardening as a hobby. I enjoy being outside and houseplants. I wanted more plants, but didn't have the budget for it. I thought that other people may feel the same so I created a flyer."

She said she didn't know where to host the event and the library came to mind.

"Since this would be a free community event, I figured the library wouldn't mind and so far things have been great," Holder said. "I didn't get a precise count, but I know at least 30 or more people showed up. I enjoy these events because it brings people together that share the same interests. It is like a book or craft club but for plant people."

In Holder's spare time, she is a pre-K teacher and she said she enjoys nurturing tiny humans and gardening goes along with that.

"You have to know what the plant needs in order for it to grow," Holder said. "I love people in the community growing together in a common interest group."

Find out more at www.facebook.com/cullmancountypubliclibrarysystem.

The Cullman County Public Library is located at 200 Clark St. NE in Cullman.

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

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 North Alabama Agriplex Heritage Building. 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.

Alpha Delta Kappa Invitation

- Are you a woman educator looking to connect, grow, serve, and make a difference? We want to invite you to contact our local Cullman chapters Alpha Theta or Beta Delta. Alpha Delta Kappa is a national honorary organization of more than 25,000 women educators who share a commitment to valuing all people and promoting quality education.
- Build lifelong friendships
- Connect with educators who share your passion
- Grow through leadership and professional opportunities
- Serve your school, community and beyond
- Celebrate the important work of women educators
- Your dedication to education matters. Your voice matters. You belong with us.
- For more information contact President of Alpha Theta Laurita Hogland 256-531-2298 or Presidents of Beta Delta Rhonda Vanzant 256-708-7980 or Lisa Hullett 256-962-4252.

Church Services: Spirit Life Church

- 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
- 256-739-3326
- spiritlifechurchcullman@gmail.com
- FB-Spirit Life Church Cullman
- Friday, Aug. 28 – 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. 30 – 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. 28, 6 p.m. Poetry night – amateurs welcome!
- Wednesday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m. Storytime with teenager Savannah Kesick reading "Frog & Toad"
- Thursday, Sept. 3, 1-3 p.m. Crochet class. Bring your own design, beginner lessons available or make a baby hat
- Wednesday, Sept. 9, 10 a.m. Storytime with Suhana Chitatia, board member
- Wednesday, Sept. 16, 10 a.m. Storytime with Gracie Miller, volunteer
- Wednesday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m. Storytime with Susan Melton "Ten Red Apples" by Pat Hutchins
- Wednesday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m. Storytime with Briana Taylor and Angelyn Riggs, children's book club
- 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.

Cheeseball Tasting Tea at Grace Episcopal Church – Place Your Holiday Order Early!

The Grace Episcopal Church Women will host a Cheeseball Tasting Tea on Sunday, Aug. 30 from 1-4 p.m. at The Arnold House, next door to the church - 305 Arnold St. NE, Cullman. This year we are offering nine cheeseball flavors for your tasting pleasure. You will have the opportunity to order your cheeseballs early, and they will be ready for pickup on Thursday, Nov. 19, in time for the holidays. If you are unable to be with us at the tea, cheeseball order forms will be available on the Grace Episcopal Church website, www.gracecullman.org on Aug. 30, 2026. All proceeds from-our cheeseball project go to outreach including Committee on Church Cooperation (CCC), The Good Samaritan Health Clinic, The Pilot Light Home, The Willow Path (formerly Victim Services), Hope Horses, Cullman Caring for Kids and Wallace State Campus Ministries. We look forward to having you join us!

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singings

Saturday, Sept. 5, at 5 p.m. with The Perrys and Sunday, Sept. 20, at 5 p.m. with Living Faith. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278 E, approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond, on the left. Everyone is invited. For more information, call 256-339-1862 or 256-590-1501.

Seventh Street Baptist Church Welcomes New Pastor Bro. Delbert Freeman

Sunday, Sept. 6. Join us for Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. and worship at 10:30. 708 Seventh St. SW, Cullman.

Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District Quarterly Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 9:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center, 501 Fourth St. SW, Cullman.

Sacred Heart Church Christmas in September

Saturday, Sept. 19, 7 a.m. -7 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 20, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Shop for gently used holiday decorations in the Sacred Heart Church gym. Proceeds go to St. Vincent DePaul.

Sacred Heart Church German Dinner

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 4-7 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Church gym. Traditional German food, $15 per plate. Dine in or take out.

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

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406



A-1 Battery Sales
AUTO – TRUCK – TRACTOR
Quality Batteries For Every Need
Since 1979
2152 Co. Rd. 1169 • Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (Office): 256-734-9438

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

Crash (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — A two-vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 4:32 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, claimed the life of a Cullman man. Alabama State Troopers identified the victim as Christopher H. Ward, 49.

Troopers said Ward was fatally injured when the 2004 Suzuki Intruder motorcycle he was operating struck a 2018 Chrysler Pacifica driven by Leah M. Bogdanovich, 39, of Grant.

They said Ward was thrown from the Suzuki and pronounced deceased at the scene.

The crash occurred on Nixon Chapel Road near Fairview Drive, approximately 2 miles west of Douglas, in Marshall County.

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

Sassy (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Sassy, a relaxed and affectionate Bombay/Manx cat, is The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week.

Approximately 4 years old, Sassy is a delightfully easygoing girl who loves snuggles, cuddles and attention. When she wants someone to notice her, she will roll around and turn on the charm until she receives the affection she is seeking.

Sassy also has an endearing, softly rumbling meow that adds to her sweet personality.

With her calm disposition and love for human companionship, Sassy could be an excellent therapy or companion cat.

She is looking for a forever home where she can share her gentle nature and receive plenty of cuddles in return.

Sassy's adoption fee is $100, which covers her spay surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, deworming and microchipping.

Visit the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE. It's open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Contact the shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

If Sassy has already found her forever home, the shelter has other deserving pets waiting for families of their own.



Break-ins (from Front)

reviewed surveillance footage from the area. According to the CPD, Investigator Nick Watkins used the footage to identify the suspect and the vehicle allegedly involved in the incidents. Warrants were subsequently obtained for Halbrooks' arrest.

On Aug. 20, the CPD said, Watkins, Investigator Hunter Riddlesperger, Officer Justin Turner and Lt. Trey Higginbotham took Halbrooks into custody at his residence without incident.

"Our officers and investigators did a great job working this case from start to finish. They followed the evidence, identified the suspect and made the arrest without incident. I'm proud of the work they put into this investigation and their commitment to keeping our community safe," Cullman Police Chief Joey Duncan said.

The CPD did not release additional information about the reported damage or whether any property was taken from the vehicles.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Program (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Schools is partnering with the Parent Project to offer Loving Solutions, a free program for parents and guardians of children ages 5-11.

The program is designed for families seeking additional support with challenging behaviors, communication, academic performance and a child's confidence.

Loving Solutions provides parents and caregivers with practical tools intended to strengthen family relationships, encourage healthier decision-making and support children at home and at school. The program includes interactive workshops focused on real-life issues facing families.

According to information provided by Cullman County Schools, greater parental engagement can contribute to improved attendance, behavior, academic achievement and family communication.

The program is being offered at no cost to participating families.

Parents and guardians interested in participating or learning more may contact Breanna Palmer at breannapalmer@ccboe.org or Sesaria Calderon at scalderon@ccboe.org. Additional information is also available by calling 256-734-2933.

COMMUNITY CORNER



SUBMIT BY NOON ON WEDNESDAY, SEE YOUR AD ON THURSDAY! ✅
PLACE YOUR AD AT TRIBUNE.STORE OR CALL US AT 256-739-1351

FOR SALE

BREATHE FREELY AT HOME! Central Boiler's Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR wood furnace eliminates indoor smoke for healthier living. Boilerworx Plus-serving Cullman and surrounding areas. Call 256-347-6832!

SERVICES

MYRA'S DECORATION FLOWERS is now open Thurs-Sat from 10am-5pm. Myra's is conveniently located on CR 1343 close to Vinemont Super Saver. With over 20 years experience we will create your custom arrangements with quality silk flowers. Prices range between $5.00-$48.00. Call or text 256-595-9748 to order. Come and let me save you money!

$29.99 INTERNET! $0 start costs! No contract! No credit check! Everyone qualifies. Ultra-fast! No buffering! Free same day installation! Get $29.99 internet now! 855-430-6109

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, Call 24/7: 1-833-879-1371 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

APPLIANCE REPAIR: Prompt local service available for appliance repair. Washer/Dryer, Dishwasher, Refrigerator, Stove/Oven and all major appliances. Certified, Insured techs. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call to schedule your appointment now! 1-877-441-0132

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-877-583-6484

SELLING A RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just $210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

WE BUY HOUSES FOR CASH AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-385-7131

CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-844-358-5270

HEALTH/BEAUTY

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-650-7885

FOR SALE

SUNSETTER. America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE $350 today! 1-877-930-3506

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-877-817-4697 www.dental50plus.com/alabama #6258

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-877-541-5677

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-877-403-4821

NO MORE CLEANING OUT GUTTERS. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is the most advanced gutter protection for your home, backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-833-683-2005 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 20% off! Seniors and military save an additional 10%. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details

AUTOMOTIVE

DONATE YOUR CAR, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-724-3049 today!

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193

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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
AUGUST 27, 2026

Wallace State names Jammie Lett head coach of men's golf

Wallace State Sports Information

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College has announced the hiring of Jammie Lett as the new head coach of the Lions' men's golf program, adding one of Alabama's most accomplished PGA professionals and golf instructors to its athletics staff.

A PGA Member with 25 years of coaching experience, Lett has built an impressive reputation for developing golfers at every stage of the game. From beginners taking their first swings to PGA Tour professionals, his teaching philosophy has consistently produced success while emphasizing long-term player development both on and off the course.

"I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to lead the Wallace State golf program," Lett said. "Golf has been my life's work for 25 years. As a PGA Member, I've coached PGA Tour players, state champions and hundreds of junior golfers, and I can't wait to pour that experience into developing these young men, both as players, students and as people. This is a special chapter and opportunity, and I don't take it for granted. I want to build on the already incredible history that the Wallace State program has. Go Lions!"

Throughout his coaching career, Lett has guided golfers at nearly every competitive level.

His extensive résumé includes teaching a future Masters champion, four AHSAA individual state champions, regional and national amateur competitors, NCAA Division I players, collegiate conference champions and professionals competing on both the PGA Tour and Korn Ferry Tour.

Lett has also enjoyed tremendous success at the high school level, coaching back-to-back AHSAA Class 5A state championship teams while helping numerous players continue their careers at the collegiate level.

His teaching philosophy centers on long-term golfer development, focusing on building sound fundamentals while tailoring instruction to each individual's strengths. Lett is also known for embracing new technology and innovative coaching methods, constantly searching for better ways to help golfers maximize their potential.

That commitment to innovation and player development has made him one of the state's most respected instructors and positions him well to lead Wallace State's men's golf program.

As head coach, Lett will oversee all aspects of the Lions' program, including recruiting, player development, practice planning and tournament preparation.

His vision extends beyond producing competitive golfers, with an emphasis on helping student-athletes grow academically, personally and athletically during their time at Wallace State.

Lett inherits a program with a strong tradition of success and believes the foundation already in place will allow the Lions to continue competing at a high level while attracting talented student-athletes from across the region.

With decades of coaching experience and a proven track record of developing champions, Wallace State expects Lett's leadership to continue the program's tradition of excellence while preparing the next generation of Lions for success on the golf course, in the classroom and beyond.



WSCC

Jammie Lett

Drinkard (from Front)

served more than 25 years on the Troy University Board of Trustees. Former Gov. Don Siegelman appointed him in April 2000, when Drinkard was approaching 80. He was reappointed twice and continued serving beyond his 100th birthday.

"Roy and I had a long history together. As Governor I had the pleasure of asking Roy if he would like to serve on the Board of Trustees at Troy. Deservingly Roy became their hero. We miss his presence but his memory will always be with us," Siegelman wrote.

Drinkard's working relationships in Cullman reached back even further.

Gwen Parker went to work for Drinkard Chevrolet in 1967. The receptionist position was her first job after high school.

"I went to work for Mr. Drinkard at Drinkard Chevrolet in 1967 as a receptionist. It was my first real job out of high school. He was the nicest person and a great boss. Rest In Peace Mr. Drinkard," Parker wrote.

Drinkard opened Drinkard Chevrolet Company in 1955 and operated it until 1974, when he turned it over to his son-in-law, Mitch Smith. His business interests later expanded throughout the Southeast through Drinkard Development.

Those who spent time with Drinkard also remembered the stories he carried from more than a century of life.

"Wonderful man and he had such a great trove of stories regarding his his life and Cullman history. I had the great pleasure of hearing some of his stories. I hope his family recorded many of these for history, they were priceless," Burma Graves wrote.

Randy Ball said he had known of Drinkard and his relatives throughout his life, recalling that his father was friends with the family during the 1960s.

Others who never met Drinkard said his stories made them wish they had. Marcus Morris wrote that he would have loved to sit and talk with him, while Sherry Mosley wished she could have listened to his life stories. DeAnne Jones Terrell thanked The Tribune for sharing those stories.

Chris Robson met Drinkard after moving to Cullman 14 years ago.

"I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Drinkard when I first moved to Cullman 14 years ago. Such a wonderful and positive soul. May he be welcomed into the open arms of Jesus," Robson wrote.

Donnie Handley remembered a friend whose influence reached people in different ways.

"He will be greatly missed because he has touched so many people in many different ways," Handley wrote, adding that he was "glad to be able to say he was my friend."

Phyllis Hain said Drinkard affected the community for decades, was always a pleasure to see and deserved a large celebration of life.

Drinkard's support for education was another recurring memory.

"He gave generously to so many. So grateful for his generous donations to Wallace State students when I was there," Melinda Edwards wrote.

Wallace State Community College expressed gratitude for Drinkard's decades of support, leadership and friendship. St. Bernard Preparatory School remembered him as a beloved member of its Class of 1938 and a treasured member of the St. Bernard family.

The Cullman County Commission called Drinkard a giant of the community, pointing to Drinkard Chevrolet, Drinkard Development, The Flying Fifty, his Industrial Development Board service and his donation of land for local schools.

"Mr. Drinkard's fingerprints are on nearly every chapter of Cullman's modern growth," the Commission stated.

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs and the Cullman City Council said Drinkard was part of Cullman's history and his military service and community contributions would not be forgotten. Cullman County Economic Development credited his leadership, generosity and investment with helping shape the county.

His influence also extended beyond Cullman.

Drinkard was born July 12, 1920, in Falkville, where his father was a businessman and served as mayor for 20 years. The Town of Falkville remembered a life defined by honor, dedication, generosity and service.

The City of Albertville remembered Drinkard not only as a developer and business partner, but also as a friend.

The Drinkard family's connection to Albertville extended to the 1940s through its funeral service community. Decades later, Drinkard Development helped bring Lucas Cinemas and Buffalo Wild Wings to Albertville.

Drinkard recited the Pledge of Allegiance and led the prayer at the 2021 grand opening of Sand Mountain Park. Albertville hoped to welcome him as guest of honor for its Liberty Launch celebration in July, but his health did not allow him to attend.

After more than 100 days in the hospital during the spring, Drinkard returned home before his 106th birthday. He was home and surrounded by loved ones when he died.

"But for those of us at the City, Roy was so much more than a developer or business partner," the City of Albertville stated. "He was our friend."

The city closed its remembrance with two messages: "We love you, Roy!" and "Welcome home."

State and national leaders also remembered Drinkard's friendship, patriotism and service.

Gov. Kay Ivey called him a dear friend and true American hero.

"Alabama has lost a true American hero. Roy Drinkard, the nation's oldest living U.S. Marine, was a dear friend and a proud patriot," Ivey stated. "In the words of The Marines' Hymn, Mr. Drinkard is now guarding the streets of Heaven."

U.S. Sen. Tommy Tuberville said Drinkard's work with The Flying Fifty made a generational impact on Alabama and helped transform Cullman's business community. Tuberville's office submitted Drinkard's story to the Library of Congress Veterans History Project in 2025.

"His story is one of faith, patriotism, and hard work, and I'm proud my office was able to submit it to the Library of Congress last year to ensure his story lives on for generations to come," Tuberville stated.

U.S. Rep. Robert Aderholt remembered Drinkard as a World War II veteran, businessman, visionary and philanthropist, but said those accomplishments did not completely define him.

"But beyond all of those accomplishments, Roy was simply a good man and a good friend," Aderholt stated. "I'm grateful to have known him, and even more grateful to have been able to call him my friend."

John Wahl described Drinkard as a man of faith, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and loyal friend. He recalled Drinkard leading the Pledge of Allegiance before the 2021 Donald Trump rally in Cullman.

"I was blessed to be one of those friends, and I will always be grateful for the time I had with him," Wahl stated.

State Sen. Garlan Gudger Jr. said the community had lost a giant whose impact would continue beyond the final chapter of his life.

"What a life!" Gudger stated. "Thank you Mr. Roy!"

Dozens of other messages focused on Drinkard's service as a Marine. Some offered a salute or "Semper Fi." Others thanked him for his service and sacrifice, described him as an American hero or told him to rest easy.

Maurice James Foster remembered Drinkard as an icon during the years he lived in the Cullman area and ended his message with "Rest in Peace, Marine. SEMPER FI."

Renda M. Carr thanked Drinkard for his service to the country and the world. David Fine wrote that he had been a blessing to many. Michael Cass Baron Moss wrote, "Rest easy Marine," while Julie Hill offered, "God speed, Marine."

Some remembered 106 years of life. Others remembered more than seven decades of work in Cullman. Family members remembered an uncle and cousin. Former employees remembered a kind employer, friends remembered conversations and strangers remembered the stories they had read.

When Drinkard was asked at 105 to share the lesson he carried from a lifetime of service, his answer was simple: "Love one another as I have loved you."

The messages left after his death reflected that lesson through stories of family, friendship, service, generosity and love.

Services

From Mr. Drinkard's obituary:

Written by Madelyne Grimmett, great-granddaughter of Roy Henry Drinkard.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that those wishing to honor Roy's memory consider making a contribution to education, a cause that remained deeply important to him throughout his life.

Memorial gifts may be directed to the Drinkard Development Legacy Scholarship or the Drinkard Development Endowed Scholarship, both at Wallace State Community College, or to Troy University foundation in memory of Roy H. Drinkard.

Visitation will be held at Roy's home, The Borkenau, 405 9th St SW, Cullman, AL 35055, on Thursday, August 27, from 2:00–6:00 p.m.

The funeral service will be held at Tom Drake Coliseum, 801 College Dr, Hanceville, AL 35077, on Friday, August 28, at 1:00 p.m. A graveside service and interment will follow at Cullman City Cemetery.

The family would be honored to have you join them in remembering and celebrating Roy's extraordinary life.



ST. BERNARD

Roy Drinkard's graduating photo from St. Bernard



County Parks and Rec gearing up for seasonal events

Emily McMunn
emily@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Parks and Recreation has a few events planned for the entire family, beginning with the 30th annual Sweet Tater Festival.

The Sweet Tater Festival will take place Sept. 6-7, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Smith Lake Park. Attendees can look forward to live entertainment, food vendors, sweet potatoes, contests and arts and craft vendors. The Sweet Tater Car Show will be held Sept. 7, with a cash drawing. Get more info at www.facebook.com/SweetTaterFestival.

After September rolls out, October rolls in and on Oct. 31, Smith Lake Park will host Camp-O-Ween from noon-8 p.m.

Cullman County Parks and Recreation Director Kenneth Cornelius said, "We'll have rides, a DJ, food trucks, different things for the kids to do, different contests. And then we have our campground, full for trick-or-treating,and they can go through the campgrounds for that."

Attendees do not have to camp at the grounds to participate. The event is open to the public.

On Nov. 20, the 24th annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Light Display will open at Sportsman Lake Park.

Said Cornelius, "We have displays, we have running lights, we have arches, we have where you drive through, and then at the end of it we have where the kids can have a snow machine, can watch cartoons, see Santa, get their picture made with Santa, have a full concession stand where they get hot chocolate, hot coffee, ride the Christmas train."

Weekends will feature horse-drawn carriage rides.

The Run-Run-Rudolph event will take place Nov. 19. "You can run, walk or you can just stroll through the lights," stated Cornelius.

Stay tuned for event times and more details.

Winter Wonderland is a popular family event every year.

"A lot of families told me they've been there every year since 2002, so I mean, it's a huge family tradition as far as, especially for the young ones seeing all the lights lit up – it just becomes magical for the true meaning of Christmas, you know, as far as bringing it down to earth and making sure everybody enjoys the lights," said Cornelius, who said he is excited for Christmas and hopes to see everyone there.



Cullman City Schools named 2026 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction District

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman City Schools has been named a 2026 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction District by the Alabama School Counselor Association (ALSCA), recognizing the district for having all five schools earn the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction.

The state distinction recognizes schools with comprehensive, data-driven counseling programs aligned with best practices and focused on supporting students' academic, career and social-emotional development.

Four Cullman City schools earned the distinction during the 2024–2025 school year and went on to earn the Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) designation from the American School Counselor Association during the 2025–2026 school year. RAMP is a national recognition for schools that successfully implement the ASCA National Model and demonstrate measurable outcomes in their counseling programs.

East Elementary applied for the Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction during the 2025–2026 school year and was notified this summer that it had earned the distinction. With East's recognition, all five Cullman City schools now hold the state designation, resulting in the district's 2026 Alabama School Counseling Program of Distinction District recognition.

In its congratulatory notification to the district, ALSCA stated, "On behalf of everyone involved in this process, we are so proud to recognize your district's excellence in school counseling."

"This recognition is a tremendous reflection of the commitment and professionalism of our school counselors," said Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff. "They work every day to ensure our students have the support, guidance and opportunities they need to be successful academically, personally and in their future careers."

Both East Elementary and Cullman City Schools will receive their awards at the ALSCA Awards Breakfast on Oct. 2.

Prost to the Past! exhibit opens at Cullman County Museum Sept. 18

Emily McMunn
emily@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Museum will debut a new fall exhibition Friday, Sept. 18, from 6-8 p.m. Prost to the Past! will honor Cullman's history and traditions, just in time for Oktoberfest, which will take Place Oct. 1-4 at Depot Park next door.

Cullman County Museum Director Molly Bloom, who was appointed in May, exclaimed, "I've been planning a fall exhibition, and I came up with it within like the first couple weeks of being here. It goes along with Oktoberfest and I wanted to bring a new element to that, which is the history of why Oktoberfest is important to Cullman."

This exhibition will showcase the history of immigration in the area and honor Cullman's founding. Bloom said, "Kind of just about how we got here, why we got here; then, it goes into the history of Oktoberfest and then it talks about the past Oktoberfest and present. It gives a really great overview of all of our history."

Attendees can expect a brand new exhibition downstairs and a fall exhibition upstairs. "You'll be able to come in, grab a drink, have some refreshments and be able to stroll around and look at our new exhibits," she said.

The Museum posted: "Enjoy a Sip & Stroll-style evening as you tour the museum, explore the new exhibits, and discover stories from the past. Mingle with friends, meet fellow history lovers, and enjoy music and refreshments as you stroll through the galleries at your own pace.

"Admission is free, but registration is requested. If you would like to support the museum, donations are always welcome! Your generous contributions help us create and bring future exhibitions to our community.

"Come raise a glass, take a stroll through history, and help us kick off the fall exhibition season!"

The Cullman County Museum is located at 211 Second Ave. NE in Cullman.

Register at https://events.ticketleap.com/tickets/the-cullman-county-museum/prost-to-the-past-opening-night. Get more info at www.facebook.com/cullmancomuseum.

Cullman Regional (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Three Cullman County projects will receive a combined $4,226,240 through the first round of Alabama Rural Health Transformation Program grants announced Monday, Aug. 24, by Gov. Kay Ivey. The largest award, $3.8 million, will go to Cullman Regional Medical Center to establish a family medicine residency training program with a focused obstetrics track.

The program is intended to prepare physicians to provide primary and maternity care in Cullman and surrounding rural communities.

BHG Cullman Treatment Center received $339,580 for technology intended to improve access to opioid treatment, medication management and continuity of care.

WellStone received $86,660 for its Cullman County School-Based Mental Health project, which will provide specialized tablets in every Cullman County school so students can connect with WellStone therapists through telehealth when an in-person therapist is unavailable.

The local awards are among 138 grants totaling more than $144 million for health care providers and institutions across Alabama.

The projects are supported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services through Alabama's $203,404,326.54 federal award for the program's first year.

"Alabama is serious about creating systematic changes through the ARHTP to ensure every citizen has access to quality care," Ivey said. "This program is enabling institutions covering every part of the state to improve healthcare for Alabamians through projects that are both innovative and sustainable."

Cullman Regional residency to include obstetrics focus

Cullman Regional's award will establish a graduate medical education program in which physicians receive supervised clinical training after completing medical school.

"We're extremely proud that our state leaders have confidence in Cullman Regional's ability to implement such a high impact project," said Cullman Regional CEO James Clements. "We appreciate the work and leadership of Governor Ivey, Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudger, the ARHTP Advisory Board including Chairman Sen. Donnie Chesteen and Vice-Chairman Rep. Jamie Kiel, Director Ken Boswell and the entire ADECA team as well as Cullman delegation members Reps. Cindy Myrex, Heath Albright and Tim Wadsworth."

The state announcement did not identify how many residents the program will accept, its anticipated accreditation partner, when its first class could begin or how the $3.8 million will be divided among faculty, accreditation, training and other startup costs.

Cullman Regional said in a media release on Wednesday: "In addition to the residency program, Cullman Regional's grant award includes funding for maternal and fetal health care outreach in the hospital's seven-county service area. Adding maternity-trained physicians to areas that have little to no obstetric care will be transformative for the region and have lasting impact as the hospital continues to develop as a regional referral hub for maternal and fetal health. In 2024, Cullman Regional opened a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) to provide highly specialized newborn care for ill and premature infants. The NICU team cares for approximately 100 babies each year which helps demonstrate the need for local, comprehensive maternal and fetal health services in central North Alabama."

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs' Rural Workforce Initiative rules allow funding for establishing and expanding graduate medical education programs, accreditation support, faculty expenses and resident training.

The rules also require applicants to address long-term viability because an initial award does not guarantee funding in later program years.

The obstetrics component builds on Cullman Regional's recent expansion of maternity and newborn services.

The hospital expanded its obstetrics program in 2024 by adding a fourth OB-GYN physician, six neonatologists and four neonatal nurse practitioners. It opened a neonatal intensive care unit in June 2024 and began providing around-the-clock specialty care for newborns.

Treatment and school mental health projects

BHG Cullman Treatment Center, located at 1912 Commerce Ave. NW, is an adult opioid treatment program recognized by the Alabama Department of Mental Health.

The center provides medication-based treatment, including methadone, buprenorphine and naltrexone, along with individual and group counseling and peer recovery support.

The grant announcement said BHG will use its $339,580 award to implement technology supporting treatment access, medication management and continuity of care. It did not identify the equipment or software to be purchased, the expected increase in treatment capacity or a rollout date.

WellStone's $86,660 project is intended to address gaps when a therapist cannot be physically present at a Cullman County school.

The tablets will allow school personnel to connect students with WellStone therapists through telehealth. WellStone already provides school-based behavioral health services in Cullman County and Cullman City schools.

Local grant administration

The grants are structured as federal subawards administered by ADECA rather than unrestricted lump-sum payments. Under the Rural Workforce Initiative rules governing Cullman Regional's award, recipients are reimbursed monthly for documented and allowable expenses within the approved budget and scope of work.

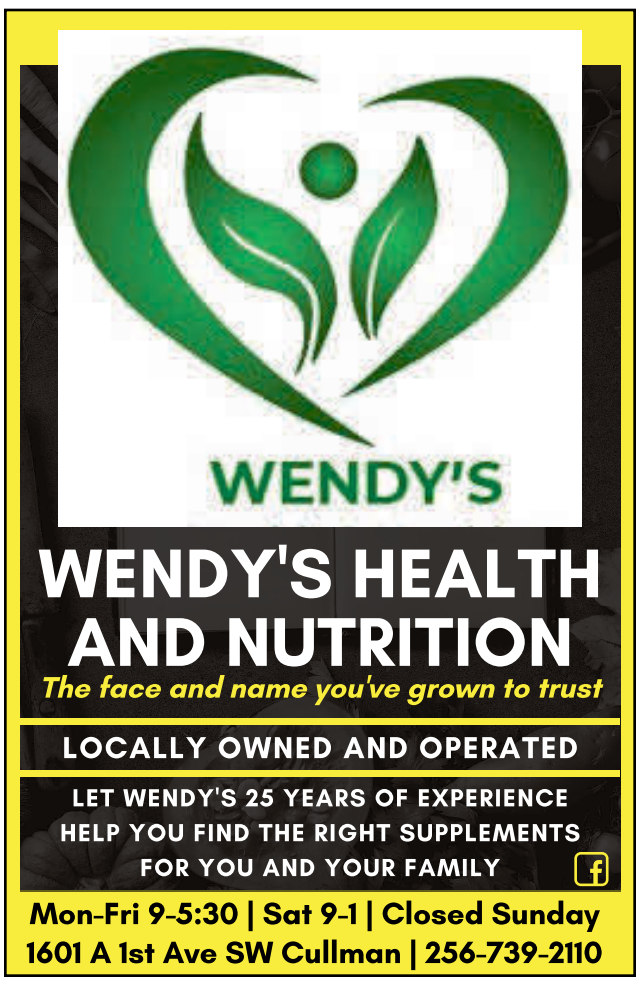
The anticipated performance period runs through July 31, 2027, unless ADECA specifies otherwise.

Recipients must maintain financial records and internal controls and submit quarterly progress reports addressing expenditures, milestones, delays and performance measures.

ADECA may conduct document reviews, monitoring calls and on-site monitoring. Costs determined to be outside an approved project or otherwise unallowable may be disallowed or recouped.

The governor's office said the initial awards followed six public information meetings, five grant workshops and hundreds of applications. The state's plan identifies Cullman as one of 58 Alabama counties considered rural or partially rural for purposes of the program.

"To say that there is great interest in improving rural healthcare in Alabama is an understatement," ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell said. "We are excited to now see so many projects moving forward."



Obituary Announcements: Aug. 25-26

James "Jim" Glenn Peppers, 79
Funeral service for James (Jim) Glenn Peppers, age 79, of Cullman was Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, with Bro. Deon Black, Bro. JT Scott, and Bro. Tony Thorne officiating. Visitation was held on Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2026, from 6-8 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Mr. Peppers will be laid to rest at Emeus Cemetery. Jim went home to be with Jesus on Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026. Jim was born on Nov. 30, 1946, to Leldon and Louise Peppers. Jim was a quiet man who worked hard and loved his family. He was a 1965 graduate of Meek High School. He worked at Cullman Products for more than forty years. Jim had been bed bound for several years, but he had gotten to celebrate his 50th wedding anniversary and was looking forward to his 80th birthday. He loved Alabama football, fast cars, and spending time with his grandchildren. But most of all, he loved the Lord. He is survived by his wife of over fifty years, Bonita Willis Peppers; his daughters, Kim (Jason) Hutcheson and Tonya (Nathan) Blackwood; his grandchildren, Caleb (Kasey) Hutcheson, Katelyn (Austin) Bryson, Reagan Blackwood, and Reese Blackwood; his great grandchild, Rhett Bryson; his sisters, Brenda (Thomas) Smith, Sandra (Alan) Stewart, and Sherry (Craig) White; several nieces and nephews. Serving as pallbearers are Austin Bryson, Nathan Blackwood, Josh Adamson, Robert Willis, Jason Heaton, Blake Heaton. Honorary pallbearers are Alan Stewart, Thomas Smith, Louis Cook,Tim Gregory, and Craig White.

Margaret Jo Gillespie Whitfied, 95
Margaret Jo Gillespie Whitfield, 95, of Gardendale, Alabama, passed away on Aug. 23, 2026. Funeral services will be held at Moss Funeral Home in Cullman on Saturday, Aug. 29. Visitation will begin at 11 a.m., with the funeral service at noon. Interment will follow at Cullman City Cemetery. The service will be officiated by Reverend Mac Buttrum. Margaret was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Charles D. Whitfield; her parents, Clark McKinley Gillespie LaBelle and Lois Gillespie; her brothers, Stanley Edmond Gillespie and Clark McKinley Gillespie Jr.; and her son-in-law, Norman Eiland. She is survived by her children: Sandra Whitfield Eiland, Charles D. Whitfield Jr. (Chuck) and Denise, Carol Whitfield Harding and Randy. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Staci Eiland Smelley and Michael, Jeffrey Frank Eiland and Tammy, Beth Harding Reeves and Jay, Whitney Harding Pilgreen and Kevin, and Brad Whitfield. Margaret was blessed with nine great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. Margaret attended Jefferson State Junior College and Wallace State Community College. She served as Executive Director of the Tarrant Housing Authority for 26 years. During her tenure, she served as President of the Alabama Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities and also served on the Board of Southeastern Redevelopment Authorities. Margaret and Charles were longtime members of Boyles Methodist Church, where Margaret taught Sunday School, led Bible studies, and enjoyed being a member of the Sally Balch Circle. They cherished their many friendships at church and were members of the Rainy Night Supper Club, which began when they were young couples at the church and continued for 50 years. Margaret was devoted to her children and their activities. She served as both a Cub Scout leader and a Girl Scout leader and was always willing to volunteer for anything her children were involved in at school. After retirement, Margaret and Charles moved to Smith Lake and joined Saint Andrew's Methodist Church, where Margaret continued teaching Sunday School. She also became involved with the Friends of the Lake. Following Charles's death in 2007, Margaret continued living at Smith Lake until she was 86. She then moved to Gardendale to be closer to her children. There, she joined Gracepoint Methodist Church and remained active in her Bible study group and Sunday School. Margaret will be remembered for her devotion to her family, her faith, her many friendships, and her willingness to serve others. She leaves behind a loving family who will cherish her memory. Pallbearers: Michael Smelley, Jeff Eiland, Jay Reeves, Kevin Pilgreen, Brad Whitfield, and Clay Smelley. To leave condolences for the family, please visit Mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral is directing.

Donnie Wayne McBrayer, 76
Donnie Wayne McBrayer, a beloved husband, father, Pawpaw, and G-Pa, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Aug. 20, 2026. He leaves behind a lifetime of love, devotion and beautiful memories with the family who meant everything to him. Donnie was a loving soul whose life touched so many. He was a resident of Cullman, Alabama, and a proud graduate of West Point High School class of 1968. Throughout his career, he worked as a welder and later as a government inspector. He was a hardworking, dependable, and selfless man who took great pride in providing for and caring for those he loved. His greatest legacy will not be found in his career, accomplishments, or possessions, but in the love he gave so freely and the family he cherished so deeply. His family was his greatest joy and he poured his heart and soul into them. He was the most loving husband, father, Pawpaw, and G-Pa, brother and son anyone could ask for. He loved his family with such fierceness and devotion that there was never any doubt about how much they meant to him. His love was unconditional, his heart was generous, and he was always willing to put the needs of others before his own. Donnie's legacy will live on in the hearts of his wife, children, grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, family, and friends. It will be found in the stories they tell, the laughter they remember, the lessons he taught, and the traditions they continue. Every act of kindness, every family gathering, and every moment of love will carry a piece of him forward. Though his family will feel the deep pain of his absence, they can find comfort knowing that he is now at peace in the presence of his Lord and Savior. His earthly work is complete, but the love he planted in the hearts of his family and friends will never fade. Donnie was the son of the late Charlie Peary McBrayer and Willine Elizabeth (Hembree) McBrayer. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Cecelia McBrayer, his daughter and son-in-law, Candice and Jonathan Baty, grandson and grand-daughter-in-law, Ezekiel and Tiffanie (Blake) McBrayer, grandson, Silas Baty, great-grandson, Emelio McBrayer, soon-to-be great grandbaby, Baby Mac, sister Jeanette (McBrayer) Hite, sister Helen (McBrayer) Rutledge and a host nephews and nieces. Proceeding him in death was his brother, Ronnie McBrayer, brothers-in-law, Jeff Hite and Tim Rutledge, and niece April (Rutledge) Fouse. A Celebration of Life Service will be held in December. Details will be posted online.

Betty Jo Melton, 83
A graveside service for Betty Jo Melton will be noon, Friday, Sept. 4, 2026, at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Bessemer, Alabama. Ms. Melton was born Dec. 14, 1942, in Bessemer. She passed away Aug. 24, 2026, in Cullman, Alabama. Ms. Melton is survived by two sisters, nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Melton family.

Roy Henry Drinkard, 106
Roy Henry Drinkard of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026, at the age of 106, closing a life that spanned more than a century and touched generations of family, friends, employees, business associates, community leaders, and neighbors. To attempt to summarize Roy's life simply by listing the businesses he built, the honors he received, or even the remarkable number of years he lived would be to miss much of what made Roy who he was. He loved life, and perhaps even more than that, he loved people. He could talk to anyone, make a friend almost anywhere, and had a remarkable way of maintaining those friendships not only for years, but for generations. He once told his daughter Karen that one of the greatest gifts he could leave her was generational friendship—the kind passed from parents to children and then to grandchildren. By the end of his 106 years, those relationships were among the greatest measures of the life he had lived. Roy was born July 12, 1920, in Falkville, Alabama, to Elbert Luther and Lucy Hardwick Drinkard. He grew up with three brothers and two sisters in a family already deeply connected to business and public service. His father was a businessman who also served as mayor of Falkville for many years. Roy's own working life began early; by the age of nine, he was delivering newspapers. He attended St. Bernard Preparatory School in Cullman and later graduated from Gupton-Jones College of Mortuary Science. During World War II, Roy served honorably in the United States Marine Corps as a Private First Class. His service remained a source of tremendous pride throughout his life, and at the time of his death, he was recognized as the nation's oldest living United States Marine. After the war, Roy returned to a profession that had long been part of the Drinkard family: funeral service. Trained as both a funeral director and mortician, he worked in the family's funeral-home business and operated a funeral home in Guntersville before returning to Cullman. Under the Drinkard family, the business eventually grew to include numerous funeral homes across North Alabama. It was work requiring compassion, steadiness, and the ability to sit with people during some of the most difficult moments of their lives—qualities that would remain recognizable in Roy long after his career moved on. There is something fitting in the fact that the man remembered for embracing life so completely began his professional career helping other families honor lives that had ended. In 1949, Roy returned to Cullman, where he would remain deeply woven into the community for the next 77 years. That same year, at only 29 years old, he purchased the historic Borkenau, the Cullman home that would become the setting for countless family gatherings, celebrations, conversations, business meetings, visits from friends, and eventually generations of family. Roy entered the automobile business as a partner in Drinkard Pontiac-GMC in 1949 and later established Drinkard Chevrolet Company in 1955. He operated the Chevrolet dealership until 1974, when he turned it over to his son-in-law, Mitch Smith. Cars themselves, his family would later joke, were never really what interested him most. Roy liked the people, and he liked the deal. He liked meeting someone, finding common ground, solving a problem, and discovering what could come next. That instinct ultimately led him into the work for which he would become best known. Roy established what became Drinkard Development, building an impressive career in commercial real estate and shopping-center development. From early projects in Cullman, including the development that became Town Square Shopping Center, his work expanded throughout Alabama and into Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, and beyond. His developments brought together major national retailers and helped shape commercial growth in communities across the Southeast. Roy and his partners were recognized as the leading developer in the United States for Kmart in 1981 and for Kroger in 1982. His projects over the years included developments associated with retailers and businesses such as Walmart, Kroger, Winn-Dixie, J.C. Penney, Kmart, Hobby Lobby, TJ Maxx, Ross Dress for Less, ULTA, Tractor Supply, Rural King, AMC Theatres, Academy Sports, Food City, and many others. He also became an approved developer for the General Services Administration and participated in the development of government facilities throughout the Southeast. Yet Drinkard Development was never simply a collection of properties to Roy; it became another family. For decades, the people who worked beside him shared not only in the business but in his life. He continued going to work every day up until he entered the hospital in February 2026. Much of his final two years was spent working alongside his great-grandson, Roy Grimmett. Among those especially important to him were Judy White and Jason Grimmett, whose devotion to Roy extended far beyond business. They, along with the employees and longtime associates of Drinkard Development, became part of the extended family Roy created wherever he went. His ability to build relationships also helped shape Cullman itself. Following World War II, Roy became one of the original members of the group remembered as the Flying Fifty, Cullman-area business and civic leaders who traveled throughout the country seeking industry and investment for a growing community. Their efforts helped recruit new employers and establish an industrial foundation that transformed Cullman County in the postwar era. Roy eventually became the last surviving member of the Flying Fifty. He later served for nearly three decades as chairman of the Cullman Industrial Development Board and played a role in recruiting businesses and industries that created jobs and helped expand the local economy. He also served as president of the Cullman County Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Cullman Planning Commission, and president of the Lions Club of Guntersville, among numerous other civic roles. Roy was also a devoted Freemason for nearly 84 years, a commitment that spanned most of his adult life and reflected the same values of fellowship, service, and community that characterized so many of his other endeavors. Education was another lifelong priority. Roy served as a director of what is now Wallace State Community College and later as chairman of the Wallace State Foundation, supporting scholarships and opportunities for students throughout the region. He also donated land for educational use and supported efforts that helped make higher education possible for numerous young people. In April 2000, at almost 80 years old, Roy was appointed by Governor Don Siegelman to the Troy University Board of Trustees. He would continue serving Troy for more than a quarter-century, through multiple gubernatorial appointments and well beyond his 100th birthday. He loved Troy University, its students, its people, and, of course, Troy football. His service earned numerous honors over the decades. Among them were recognition as Small Businessman of the Year in 1967, an award presented by then-Vice President Hubert Humphrey; the Dr. E.G. Plunkett Visionary Award; St. Bernard Preparatory School's Distinguished Alumnus Award; recognition by the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce; induction into the Morgan County Hall of Fame; the Great American Hero Award; the Dr. Jack Hawkins Lifetime Achievement Award; and recognition as one of Cullman's most distinguished citizens. The City of Cullman presented Roy with the key to the city in 2017. At his 105th birthday celebration at the Borkenau, friends, family members, university leaders, elected officials, and community members gathered to honor him. A flag flown over the United States Capitol was presented in his honor, and a tribute to his life was entered into the Congressional Record. Roy was proud of all he had accomplished. He was proud to be a Marine, proud of his businesses, proud of Cullman, proud of Alabama, and proud of the educational institutions and organizations he had been privileged to serve. But his family and close friends knew there were things he valued even more. At the age of 100, Roy added fraternity brother to his already long list of titles when he joined his great-grandson Julius's fraternity, Delta Chi, at Troy University. It was one more example of Roy's willingness to keep saying yes to new experiences and to remain an active part of the lives of the generations that followed him. Roy loved fishing in Guntersville, especially for bream. First came trips with his two daughters, Karen and Sharon, then his four granddaughters—Michele, Nicole, Tracy, and Natalie—and later trips with his great-grandchildren, especially Julius and Joseph. Those outings produced enough stories to fill a book, although the accuracy, legality, and fairness of some of Roy's fishing methods may remain matters of debate. He loved New Orleans and returned to it whenever he could, always inviting Madelyne, who he knew loved the city as much as he did. He loved Troy football, Grapico, roasting marshmallows, a good story, and anyone willing to sit down long enough for a conversation. He loved hearing Morgan say, "Hey Pawpaw, it's Morgan!" and responding, "Hey Morgan, it's Pawpaw!" He loved the long-running Buck Island Bash in Guntersville, a family and friendship tradition that stretched across roughly 70 years and became part of his annual Fourth of July celebration. He also had a deep love for what he called "Pawpaw's Night." Every week for years, his great-grandchildren gathered with him, and the nights when everyone could be together—particularly around the holidays—became a treasured family tradition. He enjoyed hearing what everyone was doing, keeping up with their lives, telling stories, and simply having them near him. He had his own relationship with each generation. Family accomplishments mattered deeply to Roy as well. Having served his own country as a Marine during World War II, he was especially proud when his great-grandson, Mitchell Collins, continued that tradition of service by joining the United States Navy. He took each generation of grandchildren and their friends on memorable trips. One of Rachael's favorite memories was when he took her and her friends to the Final Four, and all he wanted in exchange was an Auburn pin. He always called to check in and never ended a call without reminding them that he loved them. He also always remembered milestones. After the birth of his first great-great-grandchild, Collins Tilley, Roy delighted in calling to recognize her monthly milestones and wish her a happy one-month, two-month, three-month, and every-month birthday as she grew over the last year. To have lived long enough not only to know his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, but to hold and know a great-great-grandchild was a gift he treasured deeply. Roy also understood friendship as something more than companionship. To him, friendship could become inheritance. Families who had known one another for one generation often remained connected in the next. Fishing partners became the sons and daughters of fishing partners. Business associates became lifelong friends. Their children became friends with his children. Their grandchildren knew his grandchildren. He was a man who accumulated relationships the way others accumulate possessions, and he considered himself rich because of them. Roy was a longtime member of First Baptist Church of Cullman, where his faith remained an important part of his life for more than 75 years. Although not Catholic, he maintained a deep love for St. Bernard Abbey after having attended school at St. Bernard and sometimes referred to himself, with affection and humor, as a "Benedictine Baptist." Whenever he was asked late in life to share a lesson learned across more than a century, his answer was a simple verse from the Gospel of John: "Love one another as I have loved you." That philosophy was perhaps the best explanation of Roy Drinkard. He had spent his life creating businesses, developments, scholarships, and opportunities, but what mattered most at the end were the people who filled them. Roy is survived by his daughters, Dr. Karen Drinkard and Sharon Smith; his grandchildren, Michele Drinkard, Juliet "Nicole" Swann, Tracy Smith, Natalie Smith Grimmett, and Seth Swann; his great-grandchildren, Mitchell Collins, Julius Boggus (Hannah), Roy Grimmett, Madelyne Grimmett, Morgan Grimmett, and Rachael Tilley (Logan); and his great-great-granddaughter, Collins Tilley. He is also survived by numerous beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family members; generations of friends; his Drinkard Development family; many longtime business associates; and more friends than anyone could attempt to count. And, of course, he leaves behind Gracie, his cat. Roy was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years, Edythe Naomi Lee; his parents, Elbert Luther Drinkard and Lucy Hardwick Drinkard; his brothers, William Drinkard, Elbert Luther Drinkard Jr., and John Drinkard; his sisters, Sarah Drinkard and Anna "Jeanne" Skelton; his son-in-law, Mitch Smith; and his great-grandson, Joseph Boggus. After 106 years, Roy had also lived long enough to say goodbye to an extraordinary number of friends, relatives, business partners, neighbors, and contemporaries who went before him. Their names and stories remained with him, just as his will remain with those who survive him. His final year challenged a body that had carried him through more than a century. After a lengthy hospitalization, Roy was determined to return to the Borkenau in time for his 106th birthday. He did, and six weeks later, surrounded by the legacy of a life that had never stopped moving forward, he passed away. The length of Roy Drinkard's life was extraordinary, and the fullness of it was greater still. He lived through a century of war and peace, depression and prosperity, enormous technological and social change, and the transformation of the small Alabama communities he had known as a boy. He helped families part with their loved ones, sold cars, and built shopping centers. He helped bring jobs to numerous communities. He supported schools and universities. He served his country. He received awards and shook hands with presidents, governors, senators, university presidents, and other national leaders. Despite all of this, he was perhaps happiest sitting at home around the fire or on the porch with family gathered around him, telling a story he had probably changed the outcome of because no one else was alive to dispute it, planning another trip, watching Troy football, drinking a Grapico, or welcoming yet another friend through the door. The reach of Roy's life can perhaps be seen most clearly in the people who knew him. Across business, education, public service, faith, and friendship, those relationships became as much a part of his legacy as anything he built or accomplished. In remembering Roy, several of those who knew him well shared their own reflections on the man they were fortunate enough to call a friend.

John H. Merrill, Alabama Secretary of State, 2015–2023 - "It is difficult to put into words how much one man can mean to so many people. Mr. Roy had a tremendous impact on his local community, county, Alabama, and our nation as a whole. He was a true patriot who dedicated his life to service and to improving the quality of life for all those he came in contact with. We will always be grateful for his friendship and the memories we shared. God blessed America with his special life."

Dr. Vicki Karolewics, President of Wallace State Community College - "Roy Drinkard was a brilliant businessman, a devoted Christian, a staunch Troy University advocate, a patriotic Marine, a proud father, grandfather and great-grandfather, and a loyal friend who loved his community. From our first meal until our last moments together, I cherished him and our friendship. My life is immeasurably richer for having known him." »

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

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

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

Obituary Announcements: Aug. 25-26

U.S. Representative Robert Aderholt - "Mr. Roy Drinkard was many things: a World War II veteran, a successful businessman, a visionary, a philanthropist, and so much more. He was one of those men that comes along once in a generation. However, Roy will be remembered for loving his family, his friends, his community, his country and, most of all, his God. Caroline and I are grateful to have known Roy, and even more grateful to have been able to call him our friend."

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor of Troy University - "Mr. Roy was a proud Marine. He was an inspiration—devoted to his family, faith and to the preservation of freedom. As America's oldest living Marine from World War II, he exemplified 'freedom is not free.' As a beloved Trustee of Troy University, he shall forever hold a special place in the hearts and minds of all Troy Trojans. May our dear friend rest in peace."

Father Joel Martin, O.S.B., President of St. Bernard Preparatory School - Father Joel remembered both Roy's thoughtfulness and the humor with which he carried his extraordinary longevity: "Mr. Drinkard convinced me to fly with him to Troy University in his plane. When we got there, he'd arranged for me to meet a hero of mine, the famous musician Johnny Long." He also recalled Roy being asked how one becomes the oldest living Marine. "He replied, 'You just have to be a coward.'"

U.S. Senator Tommy Tuberville - "Roy Drinkard's life was a story of service—to his country, his community, his church, and his beloved Troy Trojans. From serving in World War II as part of the Greatest Generation, to developing many successful businesses, Roy didn't waste a minute of his 106 years on earth. He was proud to be an American and proud to be from Alabama, which is why he worked tirelessly to make our state an even better place to call home. We mourn the loss of this great American hero, but we celebrate a life well lived as we continue to honor his memory."

Jeff Cunningham, Friend, Attorney and Banker - "Roy truly loved people and cherished his interactions with persons from all walks of life. He loved to tell their stories and celebrate their lives. Most of all, Roy valued true friendship. Whether greeting you upon your arrival or wishing you farewell at the end of a visit, you knew that you were in the presence of a true friend who loved you and truly valued the time spent with you."

Doug Hendrickson, Friend and Business Partner - "I do not have anything remotely close to the ability to convey into mere words what an incredible man Mr. Drinkard was, both professionally and personally, and how very much I loved him, respected him, admired him, and truly cherished our relationship."

Taken together, their words reflect the many different parts of Roy's life, but also the quality that connected them all: his extraordinary ability to make people feel welcomed, valued, and remembered. That was Roy, and after 106 years, there are still far more stories to tell than could ever fit here. Written by Madelyne Grimmett, great-granddaughter of Roy Henry Drinkard. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that those wishing to honor Roy's memory consider making a contribution to education, a cause that remained deeply important to him throughout his life. Memorial gifts may be directed to the Drinkard Development Legacy Scholarship or the Drinkard Development Endowed Scholarship, both at Wallace State Community College, or to Troy University foundation in memory of Roy H. Drinkard. Visitation will be held at Roy's home, The Borkenau, 405 9th St SW, Cullman, AL 35055, on Thursday, Aug. 27, from 2-6 p.m. The funeral service will be held at Tom Drake Coliseum, 801 College Dr, Hanceville, AL 35077, on Friday, Aug. 28, at 1 p.m. A graveside service and interment will follow at Cullman City Cemetery. The family would be honored to have you join them in remembering and celebrating Roy's extraordinary life. Moss Service Funeral Home is directing. To leave condolences and/or pictures of yourself and Mr. Drinkard for the family, please visit mossservicefh.com.

Rufus Elwood Speakman, 94
It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Rufus Elwood Speakman, age 94, of Cullman, Alabama, who left this world on Aug. 24, 2026. Rufus died at home peacefully, surrounded by loved ones. Rufus was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather whose life reflected steady devotion and quiet strength. Hard-working and resilient through the years, he led by example and consistently placed God first. To know Rufus was to love him—his warmth, ready smile, and gentle sense of humor stayed with those who had the privilege of sharing life with him. And while his faith and family were foremost, few things brought him as much joy as Alabama football. Rufus is survived by his loving wife of 71 years, Marjorie Speakman; his son, Stanley (Annie) Speakman; and four grandchildren, Sheri Speakman, Pam (Chris) Uptain, Patsy (Robert) Stewart, and Wade Speakman. He is also survived by nine great-grandchildren and seventeen great-great-grandchildren. Rufus was preceded in death by his son, Philip Speakman, as well as his mother, father, and sisters. Visitation will be held at Moss-Service Funeral Home, 1901 Second Avenue NW, Cullman, AL 35055, on Aug. 28, 2026, from 9-11 a.m. A celebration of life funeral service will follow at Moss-Service Funeral Home on Aug. 28, 2026, at 11 a.m. A graveside committal service will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church, 2245 County Road 1242, Vinemont, AL 35179, on Aug. 28, 2026, from 12:15 p.m.-1 p.m.

Joel Herbert Carter, Jr., 82
A memorial service for Joel Herbert Carter, Jr., 82, of Hanceville is incomplete at this time and will be announced at a later date. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Carter passed away Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2026, at Hanceville Nursing Home & Rehab. He was born June 3, 1944, to Joel Herbert Carter Sr. and Lois Elizabeth Matthews Carter. Joel was an educator and worked for many years at the Cullman County Board of Education. He was preceded in death by his parents. Those left to cherish his memory are his sister, Linda C. Hill; nephews, Jonathan David Hill, William Carter Hill; great-nieces, Addisyn Hill, Avery Hill, family and friends. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to your favorite charity. Friends may sign the online guestbook at 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.

Cullman Elks to honor Jonathan Nethery with inaugural Jonboy Smoke Off

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Elks Lodge will fire up the smokers Sunday, Oct. 4, for a new barbecue competition honoring the life of Jonathan "Jonboy" Nethery, a friend and fellow Elk remembered for his love of cooking, competition and fellowship.

The inaugural Jonboy Smoke Off will be held at the Cullman Elks Lodge, located at 1525 Brantley Ave. NW. The first competition turn-in is scheduled for 2 p.m.

Nethery died only weeks after participating in this year's Stoke & Smoke competition. Lodge members said the new event was created to keep his personality, friendships and passion for barbecue alive.

"Anyone who knew Jonathan knew how much he loved smoking meat, competing, hanging around the lodge and spending time with friends," the Cullman Elks Lodge shared in announcing the event. "After losing Jonathan just weeks following this year's Stoke & Smoke competition, we wanted to create something that keeps his spirit, friendship and love for BBQ alive for years to come."

Organizers intend for the Jonboy Smoke Off to become an annual tradition bringing together food, music, friendly competition and the kind of fellowship Nethery enjoyed.

Competing teams will prepare both chicken and ribs. The entry fee is $50 per team, and participants must provide their own meat, grills or smokers, generators and other necessary supplies.

Each team must include at least one Elks member. Teams without an Elk must be signed in by an onsite member who remains at the lodge for the duration of the event.

Camping will be available at the lodge on the night before the competition. The Oct. 4 gathering will also include live music on the patio, games and activities throughout the day, smoked meat and pulled peanuts, which organizers noted were among Nethery's favorites.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Cullman Stoke and Smoke Committee.

A Google Form for official team registration will be released at a later date. Organizers have not yet announced the event's general start time, judging format, prizes or additional attendance information.

For questions or information about competing, contact Jessica Atchley at 256-527-8916.

LEGALS

Legal Notice
This property is being sold to satisfy the operator's lien for unpaid rent and related charges
pursuant to Alabama code 8-15-34. The sale will not occur sooner than 30 days after first
notice.

Nunnelley's Storage
Hwy 67, Somerville, AL 35670

Sale will be at 10:00 a.m.

Storage units will be sold at auction on October 3, 2026:

Unit # 36
Anna Roberson
852 Bluff City Rd.
Somerville, AL 35670

Unit # 65
Terry Carpenter
78 Tall Pines Rd Lot 17
Hartselle, AL 35640

Unit # 70
Abygaele Nudelman
822 Friendship Rd.
Somerville, AL 35670

Unit # 131
Richard Baker
84 Collins Ln.
Hartselle, AL 35640

Unit # 189
Wendy Brisco
1602 Brookridge Dr.SW
Decatur, AL 35601

CULLMAN COUNTY, AL
LISA MCSWAIN, CL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

HAMMONS VERNA, Plaintiff,
V. Case No.: CV-2026-900246.00
GASAWAY DAVID LEE, Defendant.

ORDER

MOTION & AFFIDAVIT FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION filed by HAMMONS VERNA is hereby GRANTED.

DONE this 5th day of August, 2026.

/s/ J. CHAD FLOYD
CIRCUIT JUDGE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

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

TO: DEVAN HODGES, BETH WOOD, AMY BLAIR 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.

Amended to add a Next of Kin.

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

DONE this 17th day of August, 2026.

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

GARRISON LOGISTICS, INC., PLAINTIFF,
V. CASE NO. CV 2026 – 900159
RANDHAWA TRUCK LINES, INC., DEFENDANT.

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. An attempt has been made to serve the Defendant, Randhawa Truck Lines, Inc., with the Summons and Complaint by Restricted, Certified, U.S. Mail at the Defendant's address of 6227 W Northdale Avenue, Fresno, California 93723. Please be advised that Randhawa Truck Lines, Inc., as the named Defendant, has 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 14th day of August, 2026.

LISA McSWAIN, CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

FILED IN OFFICE
AUG 13 2026
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2026 - 900283

TED F. MOORE,

Plaintiff,

v.

Commencing at an axle at the Southwest corner of the Northwest quarter of Section 32, Township 8 South, Range 1 East; thence North 89 degrees 15 minutes East 290.92 feet to the Northwest corner of the property belonging to the State of Alabama; thence North 89 degrees 15 minutes East along said property 724.56 feet to the Southwest corner of the property belonging to Billy Gibson; thence in a Northwesterly direction along the West boundary of property belonging to Billy Gibson a distance of 70 feet to a fence corner marker by a metal pipe driven in the ground which will be known as the point of origin for described property; thence East along a web wire fence a distance of 137 feet to a metal pipe in the ground, which is the Southwest corner of the following described property and the point of beginning; thence in a North by Northwest direction a length of 130 feet to the Northwest corner of described property to a metal pipe; thence in an Easterly direction 70 feet to the Northeast corner of the described property to a metal pipe; thence South 130 feet to a metal pipe in the ground, which is the Southeast corner of described property; thence West 70 feet to a metal pipe in the ground, which is described as the point of beginning.

Parcel ID: 01-09-32-0-001-010.009; PIN: 70767; Account Number: 230931,

AND

Those Fictitious Parties A-Z, whose identities are currently unknown and who will be added to this Complaint by amendment when ascertained, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the above-described property,

AND

REDSTONE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

AND

LISA A. ALDAZ,

Defendants.

FILED IN OFFICE
AUG 07 2026
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: Redstone Federal Credit Union, Lisa A. Aldaz, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown.

You are hereby notified that on the 4th day of August, 2026, a Complaint to quiet title and foreclose the right to redeem the above-described real property was filed in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Ted F. Moore against Redstone Federal Credit Union, Lisa A. Aldaz, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, whose names and whereabouts cannot be ascertained after exercise of due diligence and who are believed may claim some right, title, interest, or claim in and to the above-described real property. All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or encumbrance or lien thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur, or otherwise respond to the Complaint on or before the 19th day of October, 2026, else at the expiration of thirty (30) days thereafter suffer a judgment by default to be rendered against them, it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Plaintiff's Attorney:
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 7th Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Circuit Clerk.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

REQUESTS FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received until Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Cullman City Hall located at 204 2nd Ave NE Cullman, AL 35055 and at said time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing all labor, materials and equipment and performing all work necessary for: Midfield Hangar Construction at Cullman Regional Airport. Major items of work include: Grade, drain, base, pave, electrical and hangar building.

Information for the Project can be found on the following website: https://www.gmcnetwork.com/bids/.

The Issuing Office for the Bid Documents is Goodwyn Mills Cawood, LLC, located at 117 Jefferson Street North, Huntsville, AL 35801 Email: jennifer.farineau@gmcnetwork.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bid Documents Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Goodwyn Mills Cawood located at 2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200, Montgomery, AL 36117.

Copies of the Bid Documents may be obtained from the issuing office, during the hours indicated above, upon payment of a one-time administrative fee of $20 for digital access/file sharing access. Said cost represents the cost of printing, reproduction, handling, and distribution, therefore no refund will be granted. Checks for Bid Documents shall be payable to "Goodwyn Mills Cawood, LLC." Partial sets of Bid Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bid Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid guaranty in the amount of five (5) percent of the total amount of the bid, but not to exceed $50,000. The bid guaranty may be by certified check or bid bond made payable to the City of Cullman / Cullman County.

All Bidders bidding in amounts exceeding that established by the State Licensing Board for General Contractors must be licensed under the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, 1975, and must show evidence of license before bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the Engineer; the Bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying the license number on the outside of the envelope in which the Proposal is delivered. "A contractor must have a general contractor's license to **bid as prime for this project**."

Bids may be held by the City of Cullman / Cullman County for a period not to exceed one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of evaluating bids prior to award of contract.

Title VI Solicitation Notice: The City of Cullman / Cullman County, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4), 28 CFR § 50.3, and 49 CFR Part 21, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, all contractors will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of the owner's race, color, national origin, sex, creed, age, or disability in consideration for an award.

The requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 including any amendments thereto apply to this contract. It is the policy of the City of Cullman / Cullman County to practice nondiscrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin in the award or performance of this contract. The Owner encourages participation by all firms qualifying under this solicitation regardless of business size or ownership.

All contracts and subcontracts that result from this solicitation incorporate by reference the provisions of 29 CFR Part 201, et seq, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), with the same force and effect as if given in full text. The FLSA sets minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and child labor standards for full and part-time workers.

The Contractor has full responsibility to monitor compliance to the referenced statute or regulation. The Contractor must address any claims or disputes that arise from this requirement directly with the U.S. Department of Labor – Wage and Hour Division.

The City of Cullman / Cullman County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in the bids received.

Woody Jacobs, Mayor
City of Cullman
231 County Road 1360
Vinemont, AL 35179

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Planning Commission

On Tuesday September 1, 2026, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M, at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Planning Commission, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to prohibit the development and operation of Data Centers - Ordinance 26-42

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2026 - 900271

TINA STRICKLIN,

Plaintiff,

v.

FILED IN OFFICE
AUG 14 2026
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

A parcel of land in the Southeast corner of the North half of the Northeast quarter of Southwest quarter of Section 2, Township 9 South, Range 1 West, being all the property in the Southeast corner of said twenty acre tract which lies South and East of Monroe Bailey Road and embracing 1 acre, more or less. Said property is subject to all right of ways or easements of record.

Parcel ID: 11-05-22-0-001-020.000; PIN: 23753; Account Number: 17060,

AND

Those Fictitious Parties A-Z, whose identities are currently unknown and who will be added to this Complaint by amendment when ascertained, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the above-described property,

AND

CURTIS WAYNE AND EARLINE THOMAS,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: Curtis Wayne and Earline Thomas, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown.

You are hereby notified that on the 29th day of July, 2026, a Complaint to quiet title and foreclose the right to redeem the above-described real property was filed in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Tina Stricklin against Curtis Wayne and Earline Thomas, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, whose names and whereabouts cannot be ascertained after exercise of due diligence and who are believed may claim some right, title, interest, or claim in and to the above-described real property. All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or encumbrance or lien thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur, or otherwise respond to the Complaint on or before the 19th day of October, 2026, else at the expiration of thirty (30) days thereafter suffer a judgment by default to be rendered against them, it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Plaintiffs' Attorney:
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 7th Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Circuit Clerk.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2026 - 900284

TED F. MOORE,

Plaintiff,

v.

Part of the NW ¼ of the SE ¼ of the SE ¼, Sec. 33, T12S, R3W, described as beginning at the point of intersection of the North line of said NW ¼ of the SE ¼ with a creek (which point is marked by an iron pin); thence Southwesterly along the creek 175 feet; thence Southeasterly 250 feet; thence North 227 feet; thence West 227 feet to the P.O.B.

Parcel ID: 26-08-33-0-000-006.009; PIN: 60356; Account Number: 41478,

AND

Those Fictitious Parties A-Z, whose identities are currently unknown and who will be added to this Complaint by amendment when ascertained, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the above-described property,

AND

THE ESTATE OF R. J. GAMBLE, SR., by and through ROBERT J. GAMBLE, JR., its Personal Representative,

AND

WADE L. SELLERS

AND

DEBORAH DINGLER SELLERS,

Defendants.

FILED IN OFFICE
AUG 07 2026
LISA McSWAIN
CIRCUIT COURT
CULLMAN COUNTY

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: The Estate of R. J. Gamble, Sr., by and through Robert J. Gamble, Jr., its Personal Representative, Wade L. Sellers, and Deborah Dingler Sellers, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown.

You are hereby notified that on the 4th day of August, 2026, a Complaint to quiet title and foreclose the right to redeem the above-described real property was filed in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Ted F. Moore against R. J. Gamble, Sr., Wade L. Sellers, and Deborah Dingler Sellers, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, whose names and whereabouts cannot be ascertained after exercise of due diligence and who are believed may claim some right, title, interest, or claim in and to the above-described real property. All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or encumbrance or lien thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur, or otherwise respond to the Complaint thirty (30) days from the last date of publication, else at the expiration of thirty (30) days thereafter suffer a judgment by default to be rendered against them, it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Plaintiffs' Attorney:
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 7th Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Circuit Clerk.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STEPHANIE ANNE HALL,
Plaintiff

vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2026-900192.00**

MARTY RAY HALL,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Marty Ray Hall, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Stephanie Anne Hall's Divorce Complaint by October 5, 2026, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2026-900192.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 5th day of August, 2026.

Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
B. KING
204 3rd ST N
ONEONTA, AL 35121-1452

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, CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF *
K.C.L.C., * **CASE NO.: JU 25-120.02**
a minor, DOB: 03-03-2025. *

NOTICE OF TERMINATION HEARING

James Isaac Tanner, Jr., whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Cullman County Department of Human Resources in regards to the above child born to Denise Ann Tanner aka Denise Ann Connell on March 3, 2025, by the 17 day of September, 2026, or thereafter a judgment terminating his parental rights may be entered against him in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 7 day of August, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

Petitioner:
Cullman County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 990
1220 St. Joseph Street NW
Cullman, AL 35056

Perry D. Knight
Attorney for Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE NO.: CV 2026 - 900272

TINA STRICKLIN,

Plaintiff,

v.

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

The North half of the East half of the Northwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 9, Township 11, South, Range 2 West, containing 10 acres, more or less, Cullman County, Alabama.

LESS AND EXCEPT:
The NW ¼ - NW ¼ of Section 9 T11S R2W and more particularly described as; beginning at the Northwest corner of said forty; thence S89 degrees 15 minutes 55 seconds East 664.95 feet to the Northwest corner of the North half of the East half of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 9; thence due South 19.27 feet to a point on the South right-of-way of County Road 609 and the true point of beginning of the property herein described; thence continue due South 240.37 feet; thence S 88 degrees 29 minutes 42 seconds East 407.67 feet; thence N 9 degrees 32 minutes 21 seconds East 250.01 feet to a point on the South right of way of said road; thence N 89 degrees 25 minutes 22 seconds West along said right of way 448.98 feet to the true point of beginning and containing 2.40 acres more or less. Said property is subject to all right of ways or easements of record.

Parcel ID: 23-02-09-0-000-007.000; PIN: 37517; Account Number: 27448,

AND

Those Fictitious Parties A-Z, whose identities are currently unknown and who will be added to this Complaint by amendment when ascertained, including any persons claiming any present interest therein and including any persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in the above-described property,

AND

LOUIE FRANKLIN SELF,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

TO: Louie Franklin Self, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown.

You are hereby notified that on the 29th day of July, 2026, a Complaint to quiet title and foreclose the right to redeem the above-described real property was filed in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, by Tina Stricklin against Louie Franklin Self, and all other persons claiming any present, future, contingent, remainder, reversion, or other interest in said lands, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, whose names and whereabouts cannot be ascertained after exercise of due diligence and who are believed may claim some right, title, interest, or claim in and to the above-described real property. All persons having an interest in said lands or any portion thereof, claiming any title thereto or encumbrance or lien thereon, are hereby directed to plead, answer, demur, or otherwise respond to the Complaint on or before the 19th day of October, 2026, else at the expiration of thirty (30) days thereafter suffer a judgment by default to be rendered against them, it being intended that this notice shall be used to perfect service against all parties who cannot be personally served with a copy of the Complaint.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama

Plaintiffs' Attorney:
SHAY PERSALL LAW, LLC
611 7th Street SW
Cullman, AL 35055
256-841-7800

TO: The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for four consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Circuit Clerk.

Hon. Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Cullman County, Alabama