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WEATHER

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SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
SUNNY

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MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Good Hope, Vinemont and Addison to host playoff games as Cold Springs visits Lexington
» PAGE 4

7 93888 98541 4

Cullman Council addresses water supply ordinance revisions, aims to improve grant funding for museum

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman City Council at its Nov. 9 meeting held the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-56. The ordinance, a revision of City of Cullman Source Water Ordinance No. 2008-05, updates restrictions and preventative measures for properties surrounding the city's public water supplies, including Lake Catoma and the Duck River Reservoir, in order to prevent pollution and ensure water quality.

Section 20-166, for use of adjacent property of the bodies of water, notes that the Utilities Board of the City of Cullman is to own property surrounding these bodies of water. For Lake Catoma, Utilities Board property limits will extend 50 feet outside this region and 100 feet outside of Duck River Reservoir.

The revised ordinance states that any disposal of wastes, building, » PAGE 5

Best in Show: Cullman Theatre wins for 'James and the Giant Peach'; see it Nov. 13-14



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman High School Theatre's District Trumbauer "James and the Giant Peach" performance on Saturday, Nov. 7

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman High School Theatre hosted the District 3 Walter Trumbauer High School Theatre Festival on Nov. 7. The group won Best in Show for its one-act production of "James and the Giant Peach," which is based off of Roald Dahl's children's classic by the same name.

Director Wayne Cook told The Tribune, "We have won the state One Act festival with Best in Show three out of the last four years. We have won Best in Show at state four times total."

Winners attend the Walter Trumbauer State Festival at University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Dec. 4-5.

CHS Theatre has been to state from winning Best in Show at District 3 Trumbauer competitions all but one year since 2014.

"It's an important thing for us to do well at District. Hosting it is especially nice. We get to share our school and community with students from all over north Alabama," said Cook, who explained it has been several years since they last had the opportunity to host the District 3 competition. "The students from other communities seem to like coming to Cull- » PAGE 7



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

"James and the Giant Peach" diorama by Cullman High School Senior Jill Blocher

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80 YEARS

Thank you, Cullman, for the best 80 years of our lives.

Colony Council approves library repairs, bank resolution; announces holiday events » PAGE 5

Hunt Family Foundation gives $1.5K to Good Hope parks in memory of longtime parks director » PAGE 5

Cullman Chamber's 4th annual Cookie Crawl set for Nov. 14 » PAGE 4

Good Hope Christmas Parade, Christmas in the Park set for Dec. 12 » PAGE 4

Fairview seeks tree sponsors for Tinsel Tree Trail at town park » PAGE 8

PET OF THE WEEK

Boss just wants someone to spend time with

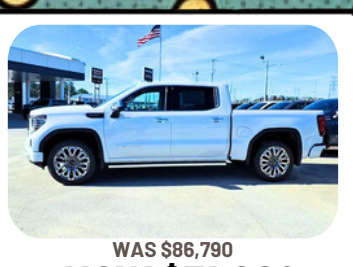


CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Boss » PAGE 3

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Nov. 11

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Nov. 11, 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

Nov. 6

- leaving the scene of an accident; person; damage to '14 Cadillac; $200; Hwy. 157

Nov. 9

- theft of lost property; person; check

ARRESTS

Nov. 9

Jones, Kevin D.; 41

- FTA – DUI
- FTA – driving on wrong side of road

McNabb, Calvin A.; 26

- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – harassment

Doyle, Kenneth W.; 41

- FTA – criminal trespass-2nd degree
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

PUBLIC NOTICE:
Grace Episcopal Church cheeseballs will be ready for pick up Thursday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. You may enter the church on the Arnold Street side through the French doors under the breezeway between the church and the Arnold House. Let us take this opportunity to thank all of you who purchased cheeseballs enabling our Episcopal Church Women to contribute to many deserving organizations in our community. Together, we are making a difference one cheeseball at a time! Dianne Moyer, 256-734-2231

PUBLIC NOTICE:
The Welti Cemetery will be participating in the Wreaths Across American event honoring our deceased veterans. If you know of a deceased veteran buried at Welti whose grave does not have a military marker, please contact Gary Reid at 256-339-7236 by Dec. 1, 2026.

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, Nov. 13 – 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. Guest speaker Steven East.
- Saturday, Nov. 14 – 9-11 a.m. Free Thanksgiving to-go lunch
- Sunday, Nov. 15 – 8:15 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Aimee at 256-841-2060 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.
- Saturday, Nov. 21 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank

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.
Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Storytime

- Nov. 18, Susan Melton reading "This is the Turkey" by Abby Levine
- Nov. 25, closed for Thanksgiving
- Dec. 2, Children's author Dorenda Doyle as Mrs. Claus!
- Dec. 9, Anita Whitlock
- Dec. 16, Kerri with Cullman 4-H
- Dec. 23 and 30, No program
- Jan. 6, Beth Ellis will read "The After Christmas Tree"
- Jan. 13, Cassy Holeyfield

More

- Saturday, Nov. 14, 10-11 a.m. Hanceville resident Charles Wilson will share his vintage postcard collection with us. He will have very old voting receipts, local vintage postcards, military postcards and postcards from around the world. Don't miss out on this one of a kind collection.
- Saturday, Nov. 21, 10-11 a.m. Adult book club
- Saturday, Dec. 19, 10-11 a.m. Adult book club
- Saturday, Dec. 19, 11 a.m.-noon "Let it Shine Puppets" a local, in-demand puppet ministry, the best-kept secret in Hanceville
- Saturday, Dec. 19, 11 a.m.-noon We my have a surprise visitor!
- We have T-shirts for sale. Children's sizes are $15 and adult sizes are $20. Proceeds to assist the library's programs.

Interested in Quilting?
The Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild will meet Thursday, Nov. 12, at 10 a.m. at St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 615 Main Ave. SW Cullman. Everyone welcome.

Vinemont-Providence Fire Department 50-Y Anniversary Celebration

- Saturday, Nov. 14
- Past members: 11 a.m.-noon
- General public: noon-2 p.m. for a cookout
- Station 2, 60 Ridgeway St.

Join us to celebrate our accomplishments!

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing
Sunday, Nov. 15, at 5 p.m. with The Williamsons from Oklahoma. The church is located on U.S. Highway 278 East approximately 2 miles east of Holly Pond on the left. For more information, call 256-339-1863 or 256-590-1501. Everyone is invited.

Boss (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Time in the yard is one of Boss' favorite parts of the day, especially when someone he knows is there with him. Shelter life has been hard on this easygoing dog and a familiar face brings him comfort.

Boss, The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week, is a Feist mix who is about 4 years old. He has a low energy level and a fondness for a little goat cheese now and then.

More than a treat, though, what Boss wants is time with his person.

For someone who enjoys quiet company, a visit with Boss at the Cullman County Animal Shelter could start with a simple question for the staff: could you spend a little time together in his favorite spot?

Boss' adoption fee is $130 and includes neutering, vaccinations and microchipping.

Visit the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE. The shelter is 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.

Has Boss already been adopted? Don't worry! Many more pets are waiting for their forever homes, and your perfect companion may be among them.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
NOVEMBER 12, 2026

Playoffs (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Vinemont will play for its first state quarterfinal berth since 1993 on Friday, Nov. 13, when Fayette County visits for the first football meeting between the schools.

Good Hope also gets its first home game of the postseason, against ninth-ranked Deshler.

Cold Springs travels to Lexington for a meeting of 10-win teams, and unbeaten Addison hosts Sulligent with their all-time series tied at three wins apiece.

All four second-round games in the Alabama High School Athletic Association playoffs kick off at 7 p.m. Central. Rankings are from the Alabama Sports Writers Association's final regular-season poll.

Class 4A — No. 9 Deshler (9-2) at Good Hope (8-3)
Good Hope and Deshler meet for the first time Friday at James W. Shabel Stadium.

The Tigers went 7-0 in Region 7, including a 55-14 win at West Point, and held Central of Clay County to one touchdown in a 24-7 first-round victory.

The Raiders earned their home date with a 24-21 double-overtime win at Fairfield.

Parker Johnson's 15-yard touchdown run helped Good Hope build a 14-0 lead, but Fairfield tied the game in regulation and answered Karson Hollis' touchdown in the first overtime.

An interception on Fairfield's next possession gave Chase Prewett the chance to win it with a field goal.

Class 3A — Fayette County (9-2) at Vinemont (7-4)
Fayette County has outscored opponents 389-134 through 11 games.

The Tigers, who received two points in the final Class 3A poll, advanced with a 43-7 win over North Jackson.

Friday sends them on the road, where they are 3-2 after going 6-0 at home.

Vinemont held region champion Central-Florence scoreless in the second half of its 16-8 road win last Friday.

Jaxon Marotz's fumble recovery set up Josh Rhodes' 1-yard touchdown run. After Central tied it, Rhodes scored again from 16 yards with 1:30 left in the half.

The Eagles protected that lead with a fourth-down stop and kept the ball for the final five minutes to earn their first playoff victory in 33 years.

Class 2A — No. 10 Cold Springs (10-1) at Lexington (10-1)
Cold Springs is 5-0 on the road entering its first meeting with Lexington.

Both teams have won five straight, and they share a recent opponent. The Golden Bears beat Tanner 63-21 on Oct. 16.

The Eagles closed their regular season with a 57-20 win over the Rattlers. Lexington received three points in the final Class 2A poll.

Both teams advanced by one score. Lexington beat Ohatchee 28-21, while Ethan Day's 10-yard run with 27 seconds left broke a 34-34 tie against Pisgah.

Day added the 2-point conversion for a 42-34 win, the 10th of the season for Cold Springs and a school first.

Day ran for 128 yards and three touchdowns on 14 carries. Brandon Chasteen scored the Eagles' other three touchdowns and rushed for 81 yards on nine carries.

Class 1A — Sulligent (7-4) at No. 2 Addison (11-0)
Sulligent scored at least 36 points in each of its seven region games and opened the playoffs with a 44-26 win over Appalachian.

Addison has allowed 39 points all season and has outscored its opponents 539-39.

The Blue Devils won the teams' most recent meeting, 21-7, in Addison's 2021 regular-season finale.

Elijah Roberts accounted for six touchdowns in Addison's 55-13 first-round win over Fayetteville. He ran for three and threw one each to Scout Flynn, Conner Lane and Judah Wilkins.

Lane also intercepted a pass and kicked seven extra points.

A win Friday would send the Bulldogs to the quarterfinals at 12-0.



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs defeated Pisgah 42-34 in the first round of the Class 2A playoffs Friday night, Nov. 6, 2026



CULLMAN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Santa Claus rides in style in the 2018 Good Hope Christmas Parade.

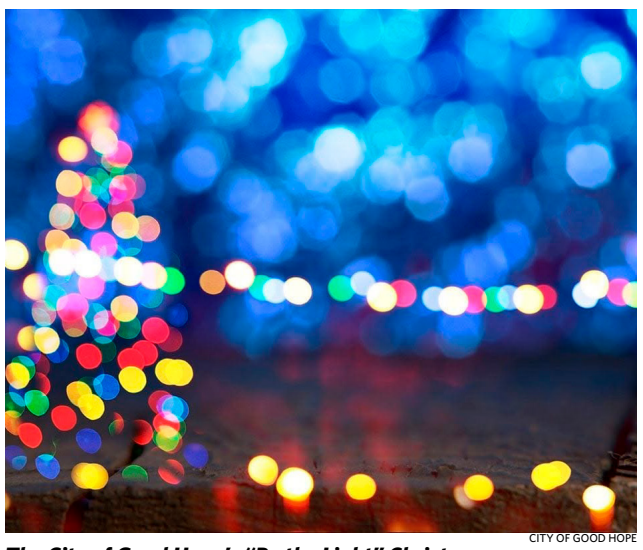
Parade (from Front)

Krystal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. – Somewhere in Good Hope, a float is already taking shape in a garage. Strings of lights are being untangled, fire trucks will soon be polished and children are starting to count down the days until they can wave at Santa.

The City of Good Hope's annual Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park are set for Saturday, Dec. 12, and this year, the whole community is invited to "Be the Light."

"Celebrate this season of hope, love, and joy as we come together to make our community shine bright!" organizers shared in announcing this year's theme.



CITY OF GOOD HOPE

The City of Good Hope's "Be the Light" Christmas Parade will step off at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, followed by Christmas in the Park.

Along the parade route
The parade steps off promptly at 11 a.m. from the Good Hope High School football field and travels down County Road 437 to Good Hope City Hall, where the celebration continues with Christmas in the Park at Municipal Park.

Over the years, the parade has drawn a hometown crowd of floats, decorated horses, local churches, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, area fire departments, the Good Hope High School football team and marching bands, including the Good Hope Raider Band.

City leaders traditionally ride along, and the parade wouldn't be complete without Santa Claus himself.

Christmas in the Park
After the parade, families can head to the park for one of Good Hope's most beloved holiday traditions. In years past, Christmas in the Park has featured train rides, hayrides, bounce houses, a cookie house, ornament crafts and visits with Santa, along with free food provided by the city.

The food has become part of the fun. Mayor Jerry Bartlett, council members and city employees have traditionally cooked up their own chili recipes, leaving the crowd to decide whose pot is best.

We need you!
Organizers are inviting businesses, churches, organizations, groups and anyone with a decorated vehicle to join the parade and help "Light Up Good Hope." Participants will line up at 10 a.m. at the Good Hope football field.

To participate, register online through the link on the City of Good Hope and Good Hope High School Facebook pages, or find the parade entry form and vendor form on the city's website, goodhopeal.com. For detailed participation information and guidelines, email admin@goodhopeal.com or call Good Hope City Hall at 256-739-3757.

"Let's make this a parade to remember!" the city said.

Cookie (from Front)

Krystal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Grab your walking shoes and your sweet tooth. One of Cullman's most delicious holiday traditions is back.

The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce will host its fourth annual Cookie Crawl, presented by Visit Cullman, on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., or while supplies last. The event is part of the Cullman Area Christmas Open House, a holiday tradition since 1990.

The best part? It's completely free.

How it works
Families can pick up their Cookie Crawl box on Friday, Nov. 13, from 4-6 p.m. Each box comes with a list of participating Chamber member businesses.

Then on Saturday, it's time to make your way around Cullman, stopping at each business to collect a cookie along the way.

There is a limit of one free Cookie Crawl box per family, and boxes are available while supplies last, so early birds may want to plan ahead.

Shop local, one cookie at a time
The Cookie Crawl is a fun way to kick off the holiday season, discover local businesses and support the places that make Cullman special, all while filling a box with festive treats.

"Shop local. Collect cookies. Celebrate Christmas in Cullman!" the Chamber said in announcing the event.

For more information, contact the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, 301 Second Ave. SW, at 256-734-0454 or follow the Chamber on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cullmanareachamber.

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

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RECREATION
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Colony (from Front)

Liz Tankersley
liz@cullmantribune.com

COLONY, Ala. – The Colony Town Council met Tuesday, Nov. 10, approving library repairs and a banking resolution while discussing upcoming community events and projects.

During the Streets and Drainage Committee report, the Council tabled the Fields Road project for rebidding.

In Parks and Recreation, the Council approved repairs to the windows in the library at the town complex.

The Council also adopted Resolution 2026-5, designating authorized signatories for the town's accounts at Merchants Bank of Alabama, which holds the town's gas tax and Rebuild Alabama funds.

The resolution names Mayor Jasmine Cole, Finance Committee Chair Councilman Michael Johnson and Town Clerk/Treasurer Gwendolyn Purifoy as authorized officials to execute financial documents on behalf of the town.

Several upcoming community events were also announced during the meeting.

The town's Christmas tree decorating and lighting activities are scheduled for Dec. 6 at 5:30 p.m.

Residents are also invited to participate in a pajama-themed Christmas game night on Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. (location TBD).

A library board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14, at 1 p.m. The town is currently seeking individuals interested in serving as library board members.

Additionally, a community cleanup at Pleasant Grove Cemetery will take place Saturday, Nov. 14, beginning at 8 a.m. A fish fry will follow at 11.

Foundation (from Front)

Krysal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. – Some men build things you can see. Ball fields. Pools. Parks where the grass is cut just right and the lights come on at dusk.

And some men build things you can't see quite so easily. A kindness that gets passed along. A habit of showing up. A belief that every child deserves a place to play.

John E. Hunt built both.

On Monday evening, nearly six years after his passing, his legacy walked into Good Hope City Hall once more.

Elizabeth Hunt, John's wife, attended the Good Hope City Council's regular meeting Nov. 9, on behalf of the Hunt Family Foundation. She came bearing a gift: a $1,500 donation to the parks, to be used for scholarships and equipment.

It was a quiet moment, the kind that doesn't take long on a meeting agenda. But for those in the room who knew John, it carried a great deal of weight. Among them was Good Hope City Clerk Christie Chamblee, who once worked under John Hunt.

The man behind the fields

For more than 22 years, John Hunt served as director of the City of Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism department. Under his watch, the department grew substantially and earned several state and national awards. He oversaw the addition of Heritage Park, the Field of Miracles and the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center, places that thousands of families now simply think of as part of home.

He retired in 2014, and he passed away in March 2020.

When he did, the City of Cullman put it plainly: "John always greeted everyone with a smile. He was an extraordinary person to be around and will be greatly missed."

Now, there are a great many things a person can leave behind. Buildings. Titles. Plaques on a wall. But it seems the thing that lasts longest is the way you made people feel. And by every account, John Hunt made people feel welcome.

A family carries it forward

After John's passing, his family found a way to keep that welcome going.

The Hunt Family Foundation raises money each year through the John E. Hunt Memorial Golf Tournament, first held in 2021 at Cross Creek Golf Course. The sixth annual tournament was held in August.

Through those efforts, the Foundation has funded 12 higher education scholarships for Cullman County students attending Auburn University and Wallace State Community College. It has paid registration fees for about 50 families so their children could play sports through city and county parks and recreation programs, and it has donated sports equipment to community programs. The Foundation has also helped refurbish the Field of Miracles and donated toward the splash pad at Heritage Park.

"We are so overwhelmed, blessed and grateful," Elizabeth Hunt told The Tribune after the 2024 tournament, crediting her husband's impact on the community for the event's continued success.

The Foundation's motto for the tournament says it simply: "Form a team. Play with purpose. Keep the mission alive."

On Monday night in Good Hope, the mission was very much alive.

Because here's the thing about a man who spends his life making room for children to play. He doesn't just build a park. He builds a town's idea of what it owes its young people. And when he's gone, if he did it right, other people keep building.

Somewhere in Good Hope, a child who might have sat out a season will get to suit up instead. A team will have new equipment. And though that child may never know the name John E. Hunt, they will know what it feels like to be welcomed onto the field.

That, it turns out, is exactly what he would have wanted.



KRYSTAL CORLEY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Elizabeth Hunt (fourth from left) of the Hunt Family Foundation presents a $1,500 donation to the City of Good Hope for park scholarships and equipment during the Good Hope City Council meeting Monday, Nov. 9, 2026.

Also at the meeting

The Council approved the minutes of its Oct. 26 meeting, at which council members unanimously accepted a $75,000 offer for about three-quarters of an acre at the end of Beech Grove Road and County Road 437. Councilman Eric Phillips made the motion, and Councilman Billy Brown seconded it.

As of Nov. 9, the city's bank balances totaled $1,633,262.03, including $156,607.50 in the Park & Recreation Fund.

Coming up in Good Hope

- Thanksgiving Community Luncheon: Wednesday, Nov. 25
- City offices closed: Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26-27
- Christmas Parade followed by Christmas in the Park: Saturday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m.

The council's remaining 2026 meetings are set for Nov. 23, Dec. 14 and Dec. 28, at 6:30 p.m. at Good Hope City Hall.

To learn more about the Hunt Family Foundation, visit Facebook/The Hunt Family Foundation.

Cullman Council (from Front)

foundation or structures such as wells and other storage facilities must be located 25 feet beyond Utilities Board property limits. In addition to building, restrictions are to apply to docks and mooring systems for watercraft.

The revision says no lots, real estate or tracts of land adjoining, adjacent to or bordering any waters of the public water supply shall be used for anything beyond residential purpose, keeping animals that produce waste or are in violation of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) or Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Section 20-167 establishes water buffer zones for City of Cullman's water supply lakes. A buffer of 35 feet for Lake Catoma and 100 feet for Duck River Reservoir will go into effect in efforts to prevent and reduce pollution from properties bordering the lakes.

It states that it is unlawful to use public courtesy docks for operating a boat, overnight docking, picnicking, camping, waste dumping, cleaning fish or swimming activities such as jumping, diving or wading.

Section 20-187 states that discharge of sewage from a treatment facility into any of the water supply lakes is unlawful. This also applies to drainage of a privy, septic tank and any prohibited emptying into Lake Catoma or other water supply lakes.

It reads, "In accordance with the Alabama Department of Public Health, it shall be unlawful to establish or maintain an Onsite Sewer System (OSS) or Effluent Disposal Field (EFD) closer than 50 feet from a full pool level surface water supply source and outside Utility Board Property Limits."

Museum grant

The Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-161, authorizing Mayor Woody Jacobs to apply for grant funding for the Cullman County Museum.

Museum Director Molly Bloom submitted a request regarding the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Inspire Grants for Small Museums program.

The grant funding would total $25,000.

Bloom noted, "Since taking on the role of museum director, I have identified several areas where improvements are necessary to ensure that the artifacts entrusted to our care are properly protected for future generations. Many of our collections, including historic textiles, period clothing, quilts, hats, photographs and archival documents, are currently housed in storage conditions that do not meet recommended museum preservation standards."

The funds would go toward preservation and storage, as well as possible digitization and documentation of the museum's historical collections.

Other business

The Council adopted Ordinance No. 2026-55, which replaces Section 183 of the city's Administrative Code governing appointed officers. The proposal addresses department head titles and procedures for appointing, supervising and removing officers. These changes are intended to align removal procedures with Alabama law.

The Council held first readings of annexation ordinances that received favorable recommendations from the City of Cullman Planning Commission at its most recent meeting.

- On Alabama Highway 157 NE, 39 acres just east of Northbrook Baptist Church are currently under contract for retail. The property owner, Billy Jackson, addressed the Commission and requested the property be annexed. Ordinance No. 2026-57 requests the annexation of the property into the city limits as B-2 Business District.
- On U.S. Highway 278 E, Two Brothers LLC requested property be annexed into the corporate city of Cullman.

The request letter read that the purpose is to facilitate the future development of the 5.7-acre site into a service station. Ordinance No. 2026-58 requests the property be annexed into the city limits of Cullman as B-2 Business District.

The Council approved a rezoning request, Ordinance No. 2026-54, rezoning 98.13 acres at 455 County Road 587 in Hanceville from AG-1 Agricultural District to R-2 Residential District. This request also received a favorable recommendation from the Planning Commission.



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman City Hall

Resolution No. 2026-166 was adopted and aims to offer joint financing for the Cullman Regional Airport hangar construction project for the city and county. The project is expected to amount to $2.39 million.

The Council also adopted Resolution No. 2026-164, which awarded the delivery and purchase of sulphur diesel fuel to the highest bidder, Davison Fuel & Oil LLC.

The Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-165, allowing the mayor to enter into an agreement with AFLAC Group for additional supplemental insurance to be provided for the City of Cullman employees.

The Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-163, setting meeting dates for 2027, all at 6 p.m.:

- Monday, Jan. 11
- Monday, Jan. 25
- Monday, Feb. 8
- Monday, Feb. 22
- Monday, March 8
- Monday, March 22
- Monday, April 5
- Monday, April 19
- Monday, May 3
- Tuesday, May 17
- Monday, June 7
- Monday, June 28
- Thursday, July 8
- Monday, July 19
- Monday, Aug. 9
- Monday, Aug. 23
- Monday, Sept. 13
- Monday, Sept. 27
- Monday, Oct. 11
- Monday, Oct. 25
- Monday, Nov. 8
- Monday, Nov. 22
- Monday, Dec. 6
- Monday, Dec. 13

Upcoming special events

- Annual Christmas Open House on First Avenue in the Warehouse District Nov. 13-15, from 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Christkindlmarkt Christmas Parade at 6:30 p.m. and Tree Lighting at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, in the Special Events District and Depot Park
- Christkindlmarkt from Thursday, Nov. 19, until Wed. Dec. 23, in the Special Events District and Depot Park. Thursday-Saturday the events will 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sundays from noon-8 p.m.

The next Cullman City Council meeting will take place Monday, Nov. 23, at 6 p.m. in the city hall auditorium following a work session at 5:30.

Christmas in Baileyton: Tree lighting, visit from Santa Dec. 4

Krystal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com

BAILEYTON, Ala. – Just a few weeks after Baileyton showed what a small town can do when it comes together, the community is ready to do it again, this time under the glow of Christmas lights.

The Town of Baileyton invites everyone to "Christmas in Baileyton," a Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 4, at the Baileyton Town Park, 390 Fire Station Road. Gates open at 4:30 p.m., and the ceremony begins at 6.

Santa Claus himself will make a special guest appearance, and families are invited to bring their children to take pictures with him.

The tree lighting was a topic of conversation when the Baileyton Town Council met Nov. 2.

Mayor Pro Tem Dewayne Sumner gave a report on the Christmas tree for the park, and Councilman Mark McKelvy reported on Christmas street lights.

Council members also discussed plans for the ceremony and the supplies it will need, from hot chocolate and thermoses to the star that tops the tree.

The celebration comes on the heels of the town's first-ever Harvest at the Park on Oct. 31, which drew as many as 1,000 to 1,500 children, plus countless family members, friends and neighbors, and left the people who planned it amazed at how their community showed up.

See www.cullmantribune.com/2026/11/05/baileytons-harvest-at-the-park-brings-a-stars-hollow-kind-of-magic-to-cullman-county.

If that day was any sign, Baileyton knows how to make a season feel special.

For more information, contact Baileyton Town Hall at 256-796-6447.

Berlin VFD hosting Breakfast with Santa, Christmas Raffle Dec. 5

Krystal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com

BERLIN, Ala. – There's something about a stack of warm pancakes on a cold December morning, especially when Santa Claus is pulling up a chair.

The Town of Berlin invites everyone to support the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department at its annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa and Christmas Raffle Fundraiser on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 7-10 a.m. at the Berlin Community Center, 3309 U.S. Highway 278.

Plates are by donation only, and every dollar helps Santa bring Christmas to children in the local community. Each plate includes pancakes, your choice of bacon or sausage and a drink.

Families can enjoy breakfast, visit with Santa and take a chance on some fantastic raffle prizes, all while supporting a wonderful cause.

This year's Christmas raffle prizes include:

- A 12-volt kids' ride-on lawn mower
- A go-kart
- A mini bike
- A 36-inch Blackstone griddle

Raffle tickets are $5 each or six for $20. Tickets can be purchased at Berlin Town Hall, 461 County Road 1615, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., from any Berlin Volunteer Fire Department member or by messaging the town on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BerlinAlabama.

The drawing will be held following the pancake breakfast on Dec. 5. You do not have to be present to win.

One-hundred percent of the raffle proceeds go toward the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department's Christmas for Kids program, which provides Christmas assistance to families within the department's coverage area.

"Let's come together as a community to support the volunteers who work hard to keep our community safe while helping make Christmas a little brighter for local children and families!" the town said in announcing the event.

The town also thanked local Tractor Supply stores for its generous donations to this year's raffle.

Or, as Berlin put it: "Small Town. BIG HEART."

For more information, contact Berlin Town Hall at 256-736-3138 or clerk@berlinal.gov.

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

www.alabamapublichealth.gov/imm

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



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Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program of Alabama

LEGALS

Case# PC2026-422
PB WIL Book:141 Page:733
Recorded in Above Book and Page
10/27/2026 12:32PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
2 Page(s)

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF) IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
) CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
ROY H. DRINKARD, deceased.) CASE NO PC 2026-422

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the Last Will and Testament of the decedent to JUDY K. WHITE and JERRY D. KIMBROUGH, the Co-Personal Representatives of the deceased, on the 27th day of October, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against such estate are required to file an itemized and verified statement of such claim in the office of such Judge of Probate within six (6) months from the above date or the same will be barred and payment prohibited.

JUDY K. WHITE and JERRY D. KIMBROUGH,
Co-Personal Representatives,
Estate of ROY H. DRINKARD, deceased

Elizabeth H. Hutchins
Dentons Sirote, PC
2311 Highland Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama 35205

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

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

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

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
201 2nd Avenue NE
256.775.7203
Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Zoning Board of Adjustments

On Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Zoning Board of Adjustments, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Variance request at 301 2nd Avenue NW for a sign

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

DOCUMENT 8

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
10/14/2026 4:33 PM
25-CV-2026-000021.00
CIRCUIT COURT OF
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
LISA MCSWAIN, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

HAMMONS VERNA, Plaintiff,
V.) Case No.: CV-2026-000021.00
WEISSEND ASHLEY, RALPH JOHNATHAN, Defendants.

ORDER

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

DONE this 14th day of October, 2026.

/s/ J. CHAD FLOYD
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Cullman Towing & Recovery Inc.

821 Al Highway 157

Cullman, Al 35058

Notice of Sale

Abandoned vehicle sale Cullman Towing & Recovery Inc., 821 AL Highway 157. Cullman, Al 35058 In accordance with Motor Vehicle Code 32-13-1, the following vehicles may be sold at 821 Al Highway 157, Cullman, AL, 35058, on Thursday August 27, 2026 to the highest bidder for purpose of collecting fees against said vehicle. Any Questions Call 256-734-0433.

1LNHM82V97Y629603 2007 LINCOLN SGL MAROON

3FTZF17261MA15331 2001 F-150 WHITE

2C1MR2467M6724926 1991 GEO METRO WHITE

Case# PC2026-081
PB MIN Book:248 Page:161
Recorded in Above Book and Page
11/04/2026 11:06AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF * CASE NO.: PC 2026-081
SUSAN CLUXTON RIX, *
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration with Will Annexed (Cum Testamento Annexo) of said deceased having been granted to **Robert Cluxton** on the 4th day of November, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Court Judge of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within six months after the granting of Letters or within five months from the first publication of this notice, whichever is the latter to occur of the same will be barred.

Robert Cluxton
Personal Representative

Seth B. Thompson
201 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CHRISTOPHER WADE BOX,
Plaintiff

vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2026-900293.00**

KOREY ANNE NEBER,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Korey Anne Neber, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Christopher Wade Box's Divorce Complaint by January 4, 2027, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against her in Case number 25-DR-2026-900293.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 5th day of November, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
BEVERLY POSTON
201 2nd AV SE
CULLMAN, AL 35055

TO PUBLISHER: BEGINNING NOVEMBER 12th, 2026 PLEASE PUBLISH ONCE A WEEK FOR FOUR (4) SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN CULLMAN TRIBUNE.

*PLEASE BILL PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY FOR THE COST OF PUBLICATION IF HE/SHE DOES NOT PAY WHEN THIS IS DELIVERED TO YOU.

Case# PC2026-390
PB MIN Book:247 Page:930
Recorded in Above Book and
10/23/2026 10:16AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
RONNIE SAMMIE LEE MARTIN, * CASE NO PC 2026-390
An alleged incapacitated person. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
VERIFIED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP

TO: AMANDA TIDMORE, APRIL MARTIN, CRYSTAL MARTIN F/K/A/ CRYSTAL BERRY AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OF RONNIE SAMMIE LEE MARTIN

Verified Petition for Letters of Guardianship, filed by Chase Martin, Petitioner, through Attorney Annaleigh B. Holt has been scheduled for the **1st day of December, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 23rd day of October, 2026.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice three (3) successive weeks is said newspaper and send Proof of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Annaleigh B. Martin
Attorney for Petitioner
725 North Brindlee Mtn. Pkwy
Arab, Alabama 35016

Theatre (from Front)

man!"

Of "James and the Giant Peach," he said, "It's a great kids' show and we are sharing it with our younger Cullman City School students in the coming weeks."

The set was designed by Cullman High School student Jill Blocher. Cullman High Choral Director Sarah Jane Skinner told The Tribune this past Saturday that Blocher designed the sets to read similarly to a children's pop-up book.

Said Cook, " She has designed the set and done the majority of the artwork. It is worth coming to see to experience the art. It is fabulous, colorful and really fun."

The set design brought together a lively, colorful atmosphere that was perfectly topped off with the dedicated acting and wit of fellow students.

"James and the Giant Peach" winners

• All-Star Cast: Cadan Fales, Isaac Heinze, Aubrey Duncan, Aiden Wistener, Ann Lunsford and Campbell Kent

• Best Supporting Performers: Loralei Hollis and Graham Wright

• Best Sound Design: Cullman High School

Superiors in individual events

Acting

• Acting Classical (Pre-1900) Loralei Hollis

• Acting 1900-1974 Lorelai Johnston, Acting 2005-Present Comedic Campbell Kent

• Duet Acting Comedic: Aiden Wisener, Cameron Hill, Anna Kate Allcorn and Lucy Bates

• Duet Acting Dramatic: Alyssa Day and Dahlia Earley

• Duet Reader's Theatre: Aubrey Duncan and James Toyoda

Musical theatre

• Musical Pre-1980 Addi Southerland

• Musical 1980-2015 Dramatic Cadan Fales, Anne Lunsford, Addie Townson, Cora Wiggins and Emmy White

• Musical 1980-2015 Comedic Graham Wright, Caroline Quattlebaum and Lorelai Johnston

• Musical 2016-Present Dramatic Isaac Heinze, Emmaline Powell, Mitchell Olvey, Ella Ode and Wyatt Shields

• Duet Musical Comedic Cadan Fales, Isaac Heinze, Caroline Quattlebaum and Graham Wright

• Group Musical Dramatic Addie Townson, Aiden Wisener, Anne Lunsford, Cadan Fales, Cameron Hill, Campbell Kent, Cora Wiggins, Graham Wright, Isaac Heinze, Jill Blocher, Loralei Hollis and Wyatt Shields

Technical theater and other events

• Puppet Design Jill Blocher

• Scenic Design Jill Blocher

• Playwriting Emmaline Powell

• Original Works Mitchell Olvey

Cullman High School Theatre will stage "James and the Giant Peach" Friday and Saturday, Nov. 13-14, at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased for $12 at CullmanTheatre.ludus.com or $15 at the door at the Cullman High School auditorium. Cullman City Schools students may attend for free.

"We hope people will come out to see this show!" Cook said.



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Obituary Announcements: Nov. 10-11

Larry James Gossett, 78

Larry James Gossett, 78, of Vinemont passed away Nov. 7, 2026, at his residence. No services are planned at this time. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Gossett was born Feb. 6, 1948, to General James Gossett and Eva Stephens Gossett. He is survived by two children; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two siblings, family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Evelyn Margaret Aaron, 94

Funeral service for Evelyn Margaret Aaron, age 94, of Hanceville, is Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home, with her great-grandson, Dustin McGraw, and her son, James McGraw officiating. Visitation will be held on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Mrs. Aaron will be laid to rest at Valley Springs Cemetery. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Evelyn was born to Doc Hence Davenport and Mary Ruby (Knight) Davenport on July 5, 1932, in Cullman, Alabama. She passed from this life on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2026. She is preceded in death by her parents; daughters, Shelly Jo Auletti and Sharon Denise McGraw; husbands, James Edward McGraw, Milton Buck Allred, and Floyd Leander Aaron; sisters, Donna Carroll McGraw and Selma Barnett. She is survived by her daughter, Shirley Faye Looney (Bobby); son, James Harold McGraw (Barbara); son, Jack Allan McGraw (Peggy); son, Bruce Warren McGraw (Jo); daughter, Shawn Renee McGraw; eleven grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; nine great-great grandchildren; sister, Thelma Milligan (Kenethy); brother, Bobby Davenport (Carolyn); and a host of many nieces and nephews, and friends. Evelyn was a true servant of Jesus Christ and a pillar in her community. She lived a life marked by love, compassion, and integrity. She was known for her unwavering devotion to God. She married and had four children. In 1969, they adopted three children. Her life was a beacon of light to her family and friends. She offered comfort, wisdom, and encouragement to all who knew her.

Patsy Evon Hardin, 79

Patsy Evon Hardin, age 79, of Birmingham, Alabama passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Saturday, November 7, 2026. She was the daughter of Coyle Day and Iva Nell Sweatt Watkins. "Pat" enjoyed spending her time with family and her pets, namely Co Co, Ivy, and Jazz Marie. She also enjoyed making flower arrangements, visiting flea markets and yard sales. Funeral services for Ms. Hardin were Wednesday, Nov. 11, at Hanceville Funeral Home at noon. Officiating the service will be Mr. Buddy McHand. Visitation will be prior to the service from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Burial will follow the service at Marvins Chapel in Pinson. Pat was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Eugene Paul Hardin Sr., her brother, Billy Joe Sweatt, and daughter-in-law, Donna Jennings Hardin. Pat is survived by sons, Paul Hardin and James Hardin (Barbette); Grandsons, Chris Hardin (Ashlyn), Casey Hardin and Shane Hardin (Meagen); one step grandson, Brian Duren; Grandchildren, Adley Hardin, Beau and Lettie Hardin; Sister, Mitzy Hindman; Niece, Pam Pledger; and nephew, Shawn Davis. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hardin Family.

Bennett Wayne Tucker, 77

Funeral services for Bennett Wayne Tucker, 77, of Hanceville will be 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, at North Point Community Church in Kimberly, Alabama. Burial will follow the service at Stewart's Chapel Cemetery in Hayden. Visitation will be prior to the service from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at North Point Community Church. Mr. Tucker was born Dec. 27, 1948, in Kimberly, Alabama as one of thirteen children to the late Gordy & Lillian Tucker. He passed away Nov. 8, 2026, in Birmingham, Alabama. To his daughter Stacy, her father was more than just a dad. He was a truly special man. She describes him as "the most gentle man I've ever met." Those simple but powerful words speak volumes about the kind of person Bennett was. He was a kind man, with a gentle heart and a way of making those around him feel loved. Mr. Tucker is survived by his wife, Cathy Tucker; children, Stacy Morgan (Corey), Kimberly Waters (Jason), Jennifer Tucker; grandchildren, Camden Morgan, and Braden Morgan; and his brother, Dannie Ellison. Mr. Tucker was preceded in death by his parents, Gordy Tucker and Lillian May Doss, and a host of siblings. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Tucker family.

Brenda Lee Jones Elliott, 76

Brenda Lee Jones Elliott, age 76, of Holly Pond, Alabama, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2026, at Falkville Health and Rehab Center. Born on April 2, 1950, in Tennessee to Elmo Jones and Rhoda Patterson Jones, Brenda was known for her warm personality and caring spirit. She worked as a waitress for many years, faithfully serving her community and forming countless friendships along the way. Her kindness, laughter, and dedication to others left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her. Brenda was preceded in death by her husbands, Fred Seiber and Dennis Elliott; her parents, Elmo and Rhoda Jones; her sister, Deloris Riemer; and her brother, Eddie Jones. She leaves behind to cherish her memory her children, Patricia (Billy) Erby, Michael Seiber, Sr., and Charles Seiber; her grandchildren, Samantha Lee, Tiffany Lee, Troy Lee, Rebecca Monaghan, Christopher Erby, Diamond Erby, Mariah Seiber, and Michael Seiber, Jr.; and twelve great-grandchildren, all of whom brought great joy to her life. Brenda's legacy of love, friendship, and devotion to her family will be treasured and remembered for generations to come.

Memorial Service

The family will hold a memorial service at a later date. Service details will be announced when arrangements are complete.

Arrangements Entrusted To

Decatur Brown Service Funeral Home Decatur Brown Service Funeral Home is honored to serve the Elliott family.

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Trail (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

FAIRVIEW, Ala. – Families and businesses can sponsor and decorate a Christmas tree for Fairview's Tinsel Tree Trail, part of the town's holiday festivities on Saturday, Dec. 12.

Proceeds will benefit Fairview High School's robotics program and Key Club and improvements to the town park, according to an announcement shared by the school.

A sponsorship costs $150 for an unlit tree or $175 for a lit tree.

Organizers provide the trees. Sponsors choose the decorations and can dedicate their display to a loved one, show their support for the school or feature a local business.

There is a plan to award prizes for the best-decorated trees.

The school's announcement paired Fairview Mayor Clint Haynes and Fairview High School science teacher Elizabeth "Beth" Lockhart as partners in the project. Lockhart coaches the school's robotics teams and works with its Key Club.

The Dec. 12 schedule lists an all-ages fun run and a 5K earlier in the day. The flyer does not give a start time for either run.

The evening festival and caroling begin at 5 p.m. A parade featuring floats, the marching band and Santa Claus will follow.

The tree trail joins a Fairview Christmas tradition that dates back a decade.

In December 2016, the Fairview Lions Club held its first Christmas parade, which traveled from Fairview Elementary School to the town park.

The club announced in September that it planned to host this year's Christmas parade on the second Saturday in December.

To sponsor a tree or ask about decorating, email Lockhart at mlockhart@ccboe.org. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Fairview.

ACES

Thanksgiving dinner costs rise, but savvy shoppers can save

Kristen Bowman
Alabama Cooperative Extension System


ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. - Alabama families planning their Thanksgiving meals may notice higher prices this year on several holiday staples, but a few strategic substitutions could help keep costs in check.

To gauge grocery prices going into the holiday season, Wendiam Sawadgo, an Alabama Cooperative Extension System economist, looked at data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service's Grocery Store Feature Reports. It showed that the estimated cost of a traditional Thanksgiving meal basket increased from about $68.38 in 2025 to $75.08 in 2026, or about 10%. The analysis compared average retail prices from the first three full weeks of October in both years.

Fresh produce and turkey accounted for most of the increase, while some common holiday ingredients became more affordable. Sawadgo said changes in supply and demand drive shifts in food prices.

"On the supply side, increased fuel and fertilizer prices, due to the situation in Iran, have increased the cost required to produce many agricultural products this year," he said. "The higher fuel prices also increase transportation costs across the supply chain, ultimately affecting the prices consumers pay. And increased labor prices have an especially large adverse effect on fruit and vegetable production."

Turkey costs inch up

The centerpiece of most Thanksgiving tables, turkey posted one of the larger price increases. According to the USDA reports, a turkey hen weighing less than 16 pounds averaged $1.29 per pound in 2026, up from $1.04 per pound in 2025, an increase of about 25%. For a 15-pound bird, that translates to approximately $19.35 this year compared to $15.53 last year.

While consumers will pay a bit more for turkey, they should find adequate turkey supplies in stores this holiday season. According to recent analysis by Dennis Brothers, an Alabama Extension economist, turkey production in 2026 has remained relatively consistent with recent years, and cold-storage inventories are only slightly below 2025 levels.

Brothers also noted that because turkey remains one of the most visible items on Thanksgiving shopping lists, retailers frequently discount birds or offer special promotions to encourage shoppers to purchase other holiday meal ingredients during the same trip. As a result, many consumers may ultimately pay less than average advertised turkey prices if they shop sales and compare retailers.

Produce and dairy shows mixed results

According to Sawadgo, several vegetables commonly served at Thanksgiving posted notable price increases. Green beans increased nearly 70%, rising from about $1.92 to $3.26 per pound. Pie pumpkins increased about 57%, from $2.37 to $3.72 each. Meanwhile, sweet potatoes rose about 17%, and yellow squash and zucchini each increased roughly 18% to 21%.

However, not all produce prices moved upward. Collard greens dropped sharply, falling from $2.81 to about $1.00 per pound, while butternut squash declined slightly. Sawadgo said seasonal factors can play a role in the price of fresh produce.

"Many crops have seasonal harvests, so their supply is highest at certain points of the year, typically meaning lower prices," he said. "In contrast, demand for certain items peaking would typically be associated with higher prices."

Some dairy products became more affordable this year, while others increased in price. Butter prices fell by approximately 21%, while the price of milk increased by about 19%.

Options that offer relief

Consumers concerned about food costs have several options for reducing their Thanksgiving grocery bill without sacrificing a festive meal. Fresh green beans averaged $3.26 per pound in the survey, while canned green beans averaged less than $1.00 per can across several Alabama grocery stores.

Similarly, canned collard greens, canned yams and boxed mashed potatoes may offer economical alternatives to fresh ingredients, particularly when feeding larger groups. Rather than purchasing ingredients for a homemade pumpkin pie, consumers may find ready-made pies competitively priced compared to purchasing the ingredients for a homemade version, saving both time and money.

While turkey remains a traditional favorite, shoppers may benefit from comparing sale prices on whole chickens and other proteins.

A whole chicken averaged $1.53 per pound, making it a viable option for smaller gatherings. The price of bacon also decreased by about 5% since 2025, which could provide savings for recipes that use it as an ingredient.

Sawadgo said consumers can lower their Thanksgiving expenses by shopping ads, using store apps to find deals and buying on-sale products that can be stored until Thanksgiving. Households that substitute a few higher-priced fresh items with lower-cost alternatives, take advantage of advertised specials and purchase store brands when available may be able to offset this year's increase in holiday meal costs.