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5 local teams collect week 2 wins

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Fairview Lions Club hosts annual Labor Day Celebration

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

The Fairview Lions Club hosted its annual Labor Day Celebration Monday, Sept. 1, 2025, at Randall Shedd Community Park. The parade included local first responders, the Fairview High School Marching Band, local business owners, pageant winners, athletes, community members and more. Hundreds lined up to take in the parade, visit the car show, enjoy food from local eateries and participate in the festivities. » PAGE 8


LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Jessa and Oakly Cannon show off their candy haul at Fairview's Labor Day parade. »

CPD hosts tactical training


JOEY DUNCAN/CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cullman Police Department officers take part in a recent tactical training exercise.

Lauren Estes
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CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Police Department recently hosted a tactical training exercise. Chief Joey Duncan said the department's Tactical Unit, established in the mid-1980s, has been training for high-risk and crisis situations for nearly four decades.

"While specialized response teams are not a new concept, Cullman's unit has consistently maintained high standards and rigorous training schedules to ensure safe and effective outcomes for officers, bystanders and suspects alike," Duncan said. "The Cullman Tactical Unit represents the highest level of training and preparedness within our department. Their dedication ensures that when our community faces its most critical moments, we are ready to respond with precision, professionalism and care for the safety of everyone involved."

Duncan said the team trains multiple times each month, focusing on a wide range of missions and real-world scenarios.

"Their most recent training exercise included precision shooting drills performed under cardiovascular stress, designed to simulate the physical and mental demands of high-risk interventions," he said.

"The training also incorporated breaching techniques and methods of entering structures through doors, windows or other access points."

Coordination between sniper teams and immediate action teams played a central role in the exercise.

"Sniper teams are tasked with observing, reporting critical information and, if necessary, neutralizing threats with precision," Duncan said. "Meanwhile, immediate action teams are responsible for securing structures or areas quickly, allowing aid to be delivered to those in need without delay."

Cullman Fire Rescue medics also participate in every training session to provide emergency medical support, ensuring that health and safety remain a top priority during both exercises and real-world deployments, he said.

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PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Cold Springs wins Pepsi XC Challenge


COLD SPRINGS RUNNERS CLUB

Part of the Cold Springs varsity boys cross country team » PAGE 5

'12 Angry Jurors' auditions begin this week » PAGE 7

Cullman County Youth Football week 2 scoring recap


BOBI JO CREEL

The Hanceville Bulldogs hosted the Vinemont Eagles on Saturday. » PAGE 5

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Thank your carriers; push management for more » PAGE 6

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FAITH

‘I want to be a light and an example of God’s goodness’: Holly Pond’s Sofia Hays discusses her faith

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. – Holly Pond High School’s Sofia Hays just began her sophomore year in August, and in this interview, she discusses her faith, starting with a couple of her favorite Bible verses.

”God means so much to me. He’s the reason I’m here today. Psalm 46:1 says, ’God is my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble’. This reflects the comfort and security He provides in time of need. His presence brings peace to my heart especially when faced with hard times and challenges. He shows there’s always good in hard times. Roman 8:28 is a verse that speaks the idea of good coming from bad situations. It says, ’And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose’. This verse suggests that even in difficult or seemingly negative circumstances, God can bring about good for those who are in a relationship with Him. God has also been a big light in my life and has guided me in a way to where I live for Him. I hope to instill all of these values on the court to be a good example and a good teammate,” Hays said. ”He has changed my life in many ways. He has changed the way I make decisions, my perspective on life, and my faith during hard times. Knowing God has changed how I react to situations. I try to treat people how I want to be treated and seek His guidance when faced with decisions.”

Sofia wants to use her own experience with God to help people of all ages have a relationship with Him, and she wants to be a Godly role model that younger kids can look up to.

”It’s important to me to help people of all ages to find God, because everyone deserves to know Him. No matter how young or how old, it’s never too late to grow your faith in Him. Knowing God provides a foundation for moral and ethical living. Proverbs 1:7 says, ’The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge’. It emphasizes that a relationship with God is essential for understanding right from wrong. This principle applies to all individuals at every stage of life, guiding their decisions and actions. I want people to see Him and His goodness through me, and I want to be a light and an example of God’s goodness for others to see,” Hays said. ”It’s important to be a role model for younger kids, because I hope they would look up to me and realize how good knowing God is. Kids tend to learn by example and always observe how you act. For many children, their first understanding of God does not come from shows or books; it comes from people.”

Sofia added, ”If you reflect God’s love, patience, grace, and truth, you’re teaching them, ’This is what God is like’. The opposite is also true: if someone claiming to follow God is harsh, hypocritical, or unloving, it can distort a child’s view of God for years. Kids today are surrounded by confusion, pressure, and temptation. Being a Godly role model doesn’t mean shielding them from everything. It means giving them a steady example of peace, wisdom, and purpose in the middle of it all. When you model God’s truth, you teach them they are loved, chosen, forgiven, and created for a purpose. That identity is unshakable, and it can carry them through every challenge in life.”

She mentioned a couple of her own role models that she looks up to, and she wants to use her platform as a volleyball player to help her teammates and the younger girls get closer to God.

”My Godly role models are my meme and my volleyball coach, Adrien Adams. They both play huge roles in my life and are amazing role models to not only me but everyone around them. Coach Adams has been my coach for three years and has impacted my life in ways I didn’t know a coach could. Coach Adams is someone who truly lives out her faith, and she doesn’t just talk about it. She’s someone whose actions reflect God’s love, even when no one’s watching. She is more than just someone who trains us in our sport; she’s someone who leads us with her faith, and it shows in everything she does. She pushes us to be excellent but always reminds us that our identity is not in our performance, but in who we are in God. She shows me that being godly isn’t about being perfect; it’s about being real, leading with love, and standing firm in faith. She leads with purpose, teaches with heart, and lives like someone who walks with God.”

Sofia added, ”It means everything to me. Volleyball isn’t just a sport. It’s a platform that God gave me to influence others, especially my teammates and the younger kids who look up to us. Every time I step on the court, I know it’s not just about winning games; it’s about representing Christ in how I lead, how I treat people, and how I respond to challenges. There are so many moments in sports that test your character: when you’re frustrated, losing, or facing pressure, and I try to use those moments to show what faith looks like in action. Whether it’s praying with someone, speaking encouragement, or just being consistent and kind, I want people to see that there’s something different, and that difference in God. You never know who’s watching. A younger kid in the stands, a teammate going through something hard, even one small moment of faith can make a huge impact. I want to use this platform to shine a light, to remind people that their worth comes from God, not their performance, and that He’s with them on and off the court.”

She attended a very special church camp last summer, and that helped her get even closer to God as well. She gave some advice for anyone that wants to have a relationship with God but might be struggling when it comes to doing that.

”My favorite church mission would have to be attending church camp last summer. That experience helped me grow closer to God and strengthened my walk with Him. The entire weekend was only focused on the Lord. No phones, no distractions, only each other and our Bibles. I was living in the enjoyment of God, and I saw the goodness He gives. Church camp changed me in a way, and it made God feel real, not just something I believe in, but someone I know. I left camp with a renewed faith, a deeper love for Jesus,



SOFIA HAYS

Holly Pond’s Sofia Hays

and a desire to live for Him daily,” she said. ”My advice to them would be that you’re not alone. So many people want a relationship with God but don’t know where to start, or they feel like they’re too far gone, too broken, or not ’spiritual enough’. The truth is, though, God meets us right where we’re at, not where we think we should be. You don’t have to have it all together. You just have to be real with Him,” she said, ”Tell Him how you feel, what you’re struggling with, and what you want. Open your Bible, even if it’s just a few verses a day. Start in Psalms or John. Ask God to speak to you through it, and find people who love Him, a youth group, or a friend, because community makes a huge difference. Most importantly, be patient. Relationships take time, even with God. Don’t chase a feeling. Chase truth. God promises in Jeremiah 29:13: ’You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart’. If you keep showing up, He will too. God isn’t looking for perfect people. He’s looking for honest hearts. Don’t give up.”

Sofia does a lot of things throughout the day to help keep her grounded in her faith, and she has taken away so much during her walk with the Lord so far.

”I try to start my morning with a prayer. I thank God for a new day, and I ask Him to lead me. I try to read at least a few verses from the Bible, even if it’s just one chapter. During the day, I’ll sometimes talk to God like a friend with quick prayers before a test, a game, or just stressful moments in my life. I also enjoy playing worship music when driving or getting ready to keep my mind focused on Him. At night, I always pray, thanking God for letting me live another day, what I’m thankful for, and people that need to be prayed for. It’s not always perfect and consistent, but these small habits help me stay grounded in my faith throughout the day.”

She added, ”What I’ve learned the most is that His love is constant. Even when I mess up, even when I feel distant, He never gives up on me. I used to think I had to be perfect to stay close to Him, but I’ve learned that He just wants my heart, not my performance. I’ve also learned that God’s timing is better than mine. There were moments when I didn’t fully understand why certain things were happening, but looking back, I can see how He was protecting me, growing me, or preparing me for something better. Maybe most of all, I’ve learned that I’m never alone. Through every high and low, wins, losses, heartbreaks, and breakthroughs, God has been right there, teaching me to trust Him more and more, and to walk by faith, and not by feelings.”

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Members who register and vote can win a bill credit worth up to $500*
Registration cards and ballots submitted by mail must be received by Sept. 11, 2025. Members can register and vote in person at the annual meeting from 9am to 11am.
*Winners do not have to be present at time of drawing. Bill credit prizes will be five $100, four $250, and one $500. Members can register and vote by mail or at the meeting on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025 from 9am until 11am.
Cullman Electric Cooperative





COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

SAVE THE DATE! Little Pink Dress Benefit
Tuesday, Oct. 7, from 6-9 p.m. at The Venue at Stone Bridge Farms. Table for eight for $450. Tickets available from Jennifer Limerick (256-201-2521 or jenniferalrealtor@gmail.com) or Judy Grissom (256-347-5993 or options5993@gmail.com) or www.CullmanBosomBuddies.com. Benefits the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation.

Music Every Thursday Night in February at the Bethel Community Center
4-8 p.m. at the center, just off U.S. Highway 278, west of Cullman on County Road 1117. Bluegrass, gospel and country music. Musicians are welcome with acoustic instruments only. Covered dish supper and everyone is invited. Please join us! No entry fee, but donations are appreciated for building upkeep.

Grief Support Group: Broken Heart Repair
Sessions on Sundays at 2 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church located at 615 Third Ave. SE, Cullman, AL 35055. For more information contact Reverend Warren Ruland at 256-962-2521.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Wednesday, Sept. 3 – 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, Sept. 5 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Saturday, Sept. 6 – 8 a.m. Men's breakfast; 10 a.m. Foundry Farm outreach
• Sunday, Sept. 7 – 9 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. 2 p.m. prayer service.

Shirley Burden Public Library – Hanceville
• Families are invited to join us for fun at the library! Library is open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5p.m., closed from noon-1 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us on Facebook for weekly event details.
• Wednesday, Sept. 3, at 10 a.m. Storytime
• Snead's Farmhouse will be here three Wednesdays in a row. A favorite education experience, with interaction, it's magical and unforgettable! Come join us for a little science, a lot of fun and maybe a peep or two:
• Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 10-11 a.m. Snead's Farmhouse: Real chick eggs will be placed in incubator and children will learn all about the 21-day cycle of a chick!
• Wednesday, Sept. 17, from 10-11 a.m. Snead's Farmhouse: We'll dive deeper into development and farm fun with hands-on learning!
• Wednesday, Sept. 24, from 10-11 a.m. Snead's Farmhouse: If all goes well, the BIG moment arrives – baby chicks hatching right before your eyes!
• Wednesday, Sept. 24, at 10 a.m. Book club

North Alabama Agriplex Programs
• www.agriplex.org
• Wednesday, Sept. 3, noon-1 p.m., Lunch and Learn - Wildlife Damage Management Around the Home & Garden. This program will provide a great opportunity for home and garden owners to gain a better understanding of common wildlife pests and their controls. Laws and regulations, damage identification, and considerations and techniques to reduce and prevent wildlife damage will be covered in detail. $10, includes lunch.
• Thursday, Sept. 4, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Elementary - Fun with Fossils. Uncover the mysteries of the past by learning how fossils are formed, how to identify different species, and more! $15 fee, max $30/family.
• Thursday, Sept. 4, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Secondary - All the Ologies - Paleontology. Dive into the study of fossils! We'll discuss excavation, identification, and get an up close look at an extensive collection of specimens. $15/student, max $30/family.
• Thursdays, Sept. 4, 6-8 p.m., Heritage Skills - Crocheting. Come learn the basics of crocheting as we make our very own scarf. Register early so you have time to pick your favorite colors! Youth, ages 12 to15 are welcome and must register and be accompanied with a paid registered adult. $25/person.
• Fri, Sept. 5, 10-11 a.m., Little Farmers - Cinder. Jan Brett is a renowned author illustrator whose books have been loved by many for decades. Each month, we will center our storytime, stations, craft, and snack around a different Jan Brett book. $8/child, max $16/family.
• Sat, Sept. 6, 9-10:30a.m., Farm Kids Club - County Fair Crafts. We'll complete an assortment of crafts worthy of submission to the Cullman County Fair. $20/person.
• Thursdays, Sept. 11, 6 p.m., Military Veteran & Beginning Farmer - Beekeeping for Beginners. This introduction to beekeeping will feature an Alabama Extension Agent and local, experienced beekeepers who will discuss the basics of keeping bees for both fun and profit with Allyson Shabel. At the Extension office.
• Tues, Sept. 30, 6 p.m., Living Landscapes - Raising Backyard Poultry: Keeping chickens, ducks, quail, guineas, and turkeys. Interested in raising chickens or other backyard poultry? Learn which bird is for you and the best practices for keeping these animals for eggs, meat, or bug control. $15/person.

Quilters Yard Sale
Friday, Sept. 5, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 6, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman. Fabric and other quilt-related items, clothing, etc.

Baileyton Masonic Lodge Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, Sept. 6, starting at 630 a.m. Enjoy pancakes, sausage and coffee. Juice and milk will be available for children. Space is available for eat in, and takeout is also available. Donations are appreciated and will be used for local charities. Please join us there.

Christmas in September Sale
The Sacred Heart Altar Society and Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Church in Cullman are having their "Christmas in September" sale on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 7 a.m. until and after each mass on Sunday, Sept. 7, in the church Family Life Center. The sale is to benefit St. Vincent de Paul Society in Cullman. Gently used decorations from all holiday seasons will be for sale.

Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District Quarterly Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 9:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center, 501 Fourth St. SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

Swamp John's Dinner
Tuesday, Sept. 9 from 4-7 p.m. at St Andrew's Methodist Church (615 Main Ave. SW, Cullman). Proceeds go to Samaritan's Purse to help pay for mailing of the Christmas Shoe Boxes.

Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center Yard Sale
Saturday, Sept. 13, from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. 17645 U.S. Highway 31, Cullman, AL 35058. Vendor spots are $20 each and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis beginning Sept. 2. Payment must be made in person at the ag center office between 7 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday. All payments are cash only.

Men's Breakfast at Seventh Street Baptist
Saturday, Sept. 13, at 7:30 a.m. at Seventh Street Baptist Church, 708 Seventh St. SE in Cullman. Men of Cullman, join us for a hearty breakfast and an inspiring message from Mike Ward, founder of Hope Road Ministries. With over 36 years of ministry experience, Mike brings encouragement and powerful insight from God's Word. Come hungry — for breakfast and for the Word of God!

Good Samaritan Health Clinic Caring for Cullman Health & Wellness Fun Day
Saturday, Sept. 13, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE Health & Wellness Fun Day Event. Join us at 118 Veterans Dr. SW, Cullman to hear live stage sessions featuring local health and wellness experts, family friendly fun zone, food trucks, local vendors and wellness resources, free health assessments from on-site mobile units, door prizes and more! Bring a lawn chair and get inspired to live your healthiest life.

Cullman County Commission on Aging Annual Senior Health Fair
Thursday, Sept. 18, from 9:30 a.m.-noon at the Donald E. Green Active Adult Center. The free event is open to adults 55 and older and will feature health services, resources and plenty of opportunities to show off their groovy 70's dance moves. The event will also feature barbecue sandwiches for lunch from The Butcher's Chuckwagon, along with shaved ice from Cha Cha's Shaved Ice. For more information about the Senior Health Fair, contact Scott Sarich at the Cullman County Commission on Aging at 256-734-1241. The Active Adult Center is located at 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

Sportsman Lake Park Fall Yard Sale
Saturday, Sept. 20, from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. 1544 Sportsman Lake Road NW, Cullman, AL 35055. Admission to the park is free, and the sale will go on rain or shine. For those interested in renting a space, the park offers both grass sites and pavilion spaces. All reservations must be made in person.

CPR Certification Class at Holly Pond Volunteer Fire Department
Saturday, Sept 27, at 8 a.m. Community members are encouraged to attend and learn this lifesaving skill. For more information or to register, contact Ann Harrison at 256-339-8502.

Gottesdienst (Divine Service)
As part of Cullman's annual Oktoberfest celebrations, St. Paul's Lutheran Church will offer a special Gottesdienst (Divine Service) conducted entirely in German on Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. The service will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 513 Fourth Ave. SE, and is open to the public.

Sacred Heart Oktoberfest Dinner
The Annual Oktoberfest German Dinner, featuring traditional German cuisine, will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 1, from 4-7 p.m. in the Family Life Center at Sacred Heart Church in Cullman. Plates are $15 each and are available for dine in or drive thru/take out. The church is located at 205 Third Ave. SE in Cullman.





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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

PREP FOOTBALL

5 local teams collect week 2 wins

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

We had another full slate of high school football games on tap last Friday night and five of our local teams picked up wins. The Fairview Aggies topped Springville 40-23, the Cold Springs Eagles handled Curry 44-7, Addison dominated at Decatur Heritage 57-0, Good Hope pulled away from West Point 42-7 and Holly Pond won a wild shootout at Hanceville 74-41.

Fairview 40 – Springville 23

After dominating Fultondale on the road last week, Fairview was on the field for its home opener against Springville at Dafford Smith Stadium Friday night. The score was knotted at 14 late in the first quarter but the Aggies scored 19 unanswered points before halftime to take a 33-14 lead into the locker room at the break. Fairview held the Tigers at bay in the second half to secure a 40-23 win.

A 51-yard touchdown pass put Springville ahead 7-0 early in the first quarter but it didn't take Fairview long to respond. After a big run from Jake Harper got the Aggies down to the 5-yard line, Kolt Redding connected with Jace Stevens for a 3-yard touchdown on fourth and goal to tie things up at 7. Fairview took its first lead of the night on its next possession when Rex Chandler punched one into the end zone from 9 yards out to make it 14-7.

The Tigers came back with another scoring drive to tie the game at 14 late in the first quarter but it was all Aggies for the rest of the first half. After Avery Latham recovered a Springville fumble, Harper ran one into the end zone from 7 yards out to put Fairview in front 20-14. The Aggies then recovered a short kickoff to steal another possession, and they took advantage of it a few plays later when Redding dove into the end zone from a yard out to make it a 26-14 game with four minutes to play in the second quarter. Fairview found the end zone one more time before the end of the first half, scoring on a 6-yard run from Harper with 15 seconds on the clock to take a commanding, 33-14 lead into the locker room at the break.

Chandler's second rushing touchdown of the night put the Aggies ahead 40-14 with around four minutes remaining in the third quarter. A safety and a late touchdown allowed Springville to trim the lead to 17 but they couldn't chip away any more than that and Fairview went on to win it 40-23.

Harper led the way for the Aggies on the ground with 198 yards and two touchdowns on 22 carries.

Fairview (2-0) will be on the road for a big region battle at West Point this week.

Cold Springs 44 – Curry 7

The Cold Springs Eagles were back home to host Curry Friday night and they improved to 2-0 on the year with a comfortable win over the Yellow Jackets. The Eagles led 20-7 at halftime and cruised through the second half on their way to a 44-7 win over Curry.

Ayden Black connected with Ethan Day through the air for an early touchdown and a 6-0 Cold Springs lead in the first quarter. Black's second touchdown pass to Day made it a 14-0 game and Day's fast start continued on the defensive side of the ball when he intercepted a Curry pass and returned it for another touchdown, giving the Eagles a 20-0 lead with four minutes remaining in the first quarter.

Curry was able to find the end zone with just under five minutes to play in the first half to cut the lead to 20-7 at the break. Cason Alexander punched one into the end zone midway through the third quarter to keep Cold Springs ahead 28-7 and Cooper Johnson followed with a touchdown of his own to stretch the lead to 36-7 later in the third.

Black's third and final touchdown pass of the night came early in the fourth quarter when he hit Eli Voce in the end zone to put the finishing touches on a 44-7 win for the Eagles.

Cold Springs (2-0) will try to stay in the win column when it travels to Susan Moore for a region game this week.

Addison 57 – Decatur Heritage 0

The Addison Bulldogs traveled to Decatur Heritage for a matchup with the Eagles Friday night and they dominated this one from start to finish. The Bulldogs jumped out to a 44-0 lead in the first half and tacked on two more touchdowns in the second half on their way to a comfortable, 57-0 win.

The Bulldogs won the toss and it only took Addison four plays to go sixty yards for the first touchdown of the night. Addison QB Elijah Roberts ran it in from 15 yards out for the touchdown. The extra point was no good and at the 10:15 mark of the first quarter, Addison led 6-0 and it was just getting started.

On the Eagles first possession they got a quick first down but then Addison's Senior DL Casen Hill sacked Eagle QB Luke Wickwire on the Eagle 42-yard line forcing a punt. The Eagles punter then kicked the ball directly into the backside of his own player and Addison took over at the Eagle 27.

Two plays later, Roberts found Judah Wilkins for a twenty-two-yard touchdown pass. The extra point was no good and Addison led 12-0 with still six minutes to go in the first quarter.

After forcing another Eagle punt, Roberts hit Zane Smith for a 30-yard completion down to the Eagle 9-yard line. Two plays later, Smith ran it in from nine yards out for the touchdown at the 1:40 mark of the first quarter. The two-point was no good and Addison had stretched their lead to 18-0 in the first.

Addison forced an Eagle fumble two plays later, Smith recovered the ball for the Bulldogs. On the very next play, Roberts found Conner Lane for a beautiful long pass down the home sideline. The play covered 60 yards and after the missed extra point and with only 36 seconds left in the first quarter, the game was for all intents and purposes over as Addison led 24-0.

Addison's Scout Flynn picked off an Eagle pass and gave Addison possession at midfield. It only took Addison four plays to travel the 50 yards as Smith rambled 44 yards down to the one-yard line, but an Addison dead ball personal foul penalty backed them up to the 16 with a first and goal.

Two plays later Roberts ran it in from five yards out for another touchdown and stretched Addison's lead to 31-0 as he kicked the extra point.

The young ones of Decatur Heritage could do practically nothing all night against the Junkyard Dawg Defense. On their next possession the Eagles tried some trickeration with a fake punt but it failed.

Addison took over at the Eagle 35 and you guessed it, two plays later, Flynn found TE Major Snoddy for a twenty-nine-yard touchdown pass. The point after was no good and with six minutes to go in the half, Addison led 37-0.

Another Eagle punt, led to the last Addison scoring drive of the half. The play that set up the touchdown was Flynn hitting Trennon Burns for a fifty-yard bomb down to the Eagle 10-yard line. Burns actually timed his jump perfectly and caught the ball over a bigger defender. Joey Wilson took it in from three yards out for the last Bulldog touchdown of the half to increase the lead to 44-0 with the Roberts extra point.

The half ended with this score. Addison actually ended the half kneeling the ball on three consecutive plays.

The second half opened with Decatur Heritage receiving the kickoff and on the first offensive play of the second half for Heritage, Snoddy picked off the Eagle pass and rumbled and bumbled his way 36 yards for the pick six. The Roberts extra point was good, and Addison stretched its lead to 51-0 with 11:22 to go in the third quarter.

After an exchange of possessions, Addison's Flynn hit Burns for a 37-yard touchdown pass. The extra point was no good and Addison led 57-0 with 4:29 to go in the third quarter.

The Bulldogs went on to win it 57-0 and will travel to Shoals Christian Friday night.

Good Hope 42 – West Point 7

The Good Hope Raiders hosted the West Point Warriors in a county matchup on Friday night. After a close first half, Good Hope broke the game wide open in the second half, scoring three touchdowns en route to a 42-7 win over West Point.

The Warriors got the ball first to start out the game, and Ollie Howell got a first down on the first play of the game. The Raider defense stiffened after that, as Howell got stopped a yard short on fourth down. Good Hope leaned on the running game on its opening series, as Mason Drake, Carter Rutherford, and Parker Johnson helped take them to the five-yard line.

A penalty pushed them back to the 10, but Karson Hollis scored on an end-around run on the next play to give the Raiders a 7-0 lead with 5:34 remaining in the opening period. A quick three-and-out gave the ball back to Good Hope, and it took them just three plays to find the end zone, as Johnson connected with Ayden Young on a 42-yard screen pass to make it 14-0.

Ayden Ennis used his legs and arm to help the Warriors move the ball down the field on its next possession, as he picked up a first down on the ground and connected with Cooper Howard on a huge fourth down-play to help keep their drive alive. Howell picked up another first down on the run, but a few plays later, they were forced to punt. Drake broke free for a 51-yard run on the first play for Good Hope, but West Point's defense tightened up after that, as they sacked Johnson on fourth down to force a turnover on downs. The Warriors found the end zone on just the second play of its series, as Ennis found Howard over the middle for a 72-yard touchdown to cut it to 14-7 with 5:29 left to go in the first half.

After getting a first down on its next drive, Good Hope was forced to punt, but Caleb Boles picked off an Ennis pass on the first play.

Another Raider punt gave the ball back to the Warriors, and some big runs by Howell and Titan Thornton, plus a 37-yard pass from Ennis to Teagan Heaton, quickly put them at the three. Good Hope tightened up and kept the Warriors out of the end zone to end the first half and took a 14-7 lead into the locker room at the break.

Drake picked up some huge yards on the ground for Good Hope to start out the second half.

A pair of offsides penalties on West Point, plus a 12-yard pass from Johnson to Rutherford, helped them get to the 28-yard line. Drake found a huge hole on the left side and ended up finding the end zone on a 28-yard run to widen their lead to 21-7. Howell collected a first down on the Warriors' opening possession, but Hunter Miller sacked Ennis two plays later, and West Point was forced to punt.

Both teams traded punts on their next possessions, and Drake found the end zone on the Raiders' first play of its next drive, as his 67-yard scamper made it 28-7. Johnson found Rutherford for a 30-yard score to make it 35-7, and Blake Cordes picked off an Ennis pass and returned it 59 yards for the final score of the game, wrapping up a 42-7 win for Good Hope.

Drake finished with 197 yards on 16 carries and a pair of touchdowns for the Raiders (1-0). Johnson went 6/9 for 105 yards and a pair of scores.

Young (42 yards on a pair of receptions) and Rutherford (four catches for 59 yards) collected a touchdown for Good Hope.

Boles, Cordes, and Sean Jones each had an interception in the game. For West Point (1-1), Ennis finished 7/16 for 141 yards, one touchdown, and two interceptions. Howard added 92 yards on five receptions and a touchdown, while Howell finished with 85 yards on 19 carries.

Good Hope will travel to Fultondale this week while West Point prepares to host a county and region battle with Fairview Friday night.

Holly Pond 74 – Hanceville 41

Holly Pond traveled to Ray Talley Stadium for a county matchup against the Hanceville Bulldogs Friday night and defense was almost nowhere to be found in this one. Both teams combined to score 85 points in the first half with Holly Pond leading the way 50-35 at the break. The Broncos tacked on 24 more points in the second half to continue lighting up the scoreboard and pull away with a 74-41 win over the Bulldogs.

First quarter scoring

Hunter Black's 1 yard touchdown run put Hanceville ahead 6-0 with 9:29 to play in the first quarter.

Boston Gibbs scores on a 34-yard run to tie the game at 6 with 8:43 remaining in the first quarter.

Black finds Drake Bentley through the air for a 14-yard touchdown to give Hanceville a 13-6 lead with 3:35 to play in the first.

Gibbs runs one in from 40 yards out to put Holly Pond in front 14-13 with 2:45 on the clock.

Black hits Bentley on an 18-yard touchdown pass to take a 21-14 lead for Hanceville with 1:42 remaining in the first quarter.

Miguel Garcia returns the ensuing kickoff 84 yards for a touchdown to cut the Hanceville lead to 21-20 going into the second quarter.

Second quarter scoring

A 1-yard touchdown run from Gibbs put the Broncos ahead 26-21 with 10:36 on the clock in the second quarter.

Black's 43-yard touchdown pass to Bentley gave Hanceville a 29-26 lead with 8:40 to play in the second.

Gibbs' 48-yard touchdown pass to Garcia put Holly Pond ahead 34-29 with 7:46 remaining in the second quarter.

A 29-yard touchdown pass from Black to Bentley gave Hanceville a 35-34 lead with 4:10 to play in the first half.

A 5-yard touchdown run from Gibbs put the Broncos back in front 42-35 with just under two minutes left in the second quarter.

Gibbs ran one into the end zone from 13 yards out to give Holly Pond a 50-35 lead as the second quarter expired.

Third quarter scoring

An 11-yard touchdown run from Gibbs extended the Bronco lead to 58-35 early in the third quarter.

Black threw a 29-yard touchdown pass to Bentley to cut the lead to 58-41 with 6:43 remaining in the third quarter. Garcia scored on a 17-yard touchdown run to give Holly Pond a 66-41 lead with 5:33 to play in the third.

Gibbs ran one into the end zone from 11 yards out for the final score of the night, putting the Broncos ahead 74-41 with 2:34 remaining in the third quarter.

Holly Pond (1-1) will host Sylvania this week and Hanceville (0-2) will host Gordo.



KATIE DRUMMOND/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Holly Pond's Boston Gibbs (14) racked up 320 yards on the ground and was responsible for 8 total TDs in the Broncos' 74-41 win at Hanceville Friday night.



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Good Hope Raiders pulled away in the second half to defeat West Point 42-7 Friday night.

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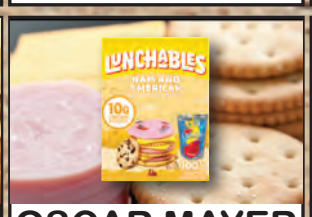
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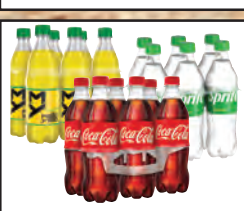
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PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Cold Springs wins Pepsi XC Challenge



COLD SPRINGS RUNNERS CLUB

Cold Springs varsity boys cross country team won Saturday's Pepsi XC Challenge in Moulton. Logan Perdue placed 2nd (17:42.38), Garrett Scheer finished 9th (18:39.88), Samuel Hunt came in 12th (18:54.68), James Baggett finished 20th (19:20.80) and Carson Rice placed 26th (19:33.24) to lead the way for the Eagles.



BOBI JO CREEL/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Hanceville Bulldogs hosted the Vinemont Eagles on Saturday.

Cullman County Youth Football week 2 scoring recap

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Week two of the 2025 Cullman County Youth Football season was played on Saturday, and there were several exciting games that went on around the county. The Fairview Aggies hosted the Cold Springs Eagles, the West Point Warriors traveled to take on the Holly Pond Broncos, the Good Hope Raiders hosted the West Morgan Rebels, the Vinemont Eagles traveled to take on the Hanceville Bulldogs and the Cullman Bearcats hosted the Danville Hawks.

FAIRVIEW AGGIES AT COLD SPRINGS EAGLES

- Fireplug: Aggies 27 - Eagles 0
- Wee-Wee: Aggies 28 - Eagles 0
- Pee-Wee: Aggies 8 - Eagles 7

WEST POINT WARRIORS AT HOLLY POND BRONCOS

- Fireplug: Warriors 7 - Broncos 0
- Wee-Wee: Warriors 6 - Broncos 0
- Pee-Wee: Warriors 27 - Broncos 0

WEST MORGAN REBELS AT GOOD HOPE RAIDERS

- Fireplug: Rebels 20 - Raiders 2
- Wee-Wee: Rebels 14 - Raiders 8
- Pee-Wee: Rebels 22 - Raiders 6

VINEMONT EAGLES AT HANCEVILLE BULLDOGS

- Fireplug: Eagles 12 - Bulldogs 6 (2OT)
- Wee-Wee: Eagles 19 - Bulldogs 6
- Pee-Wee: Eagles 14 - Bulldogs 0

DANVILLE HAWKS AT CULLMAN BEARCATS

- Fireplug: Bearcats 42 - Hawks 6
- Wee-Wee: Hawks 6 - Bearcats 0
- Pee-Wee: Hawks 20 - Bearcats 6

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EDITORIAL

Thank your carriers; push management for more

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

Over the past month, changes at the Cullman Post Office have begun to show. Packages and letters are moving again, thanks in large part to the tireless work of local carriers.

These men and women are working 12-hour days to keep the system afloat.

They deserve our gratitude. When you see your carrier, thank them. They are doing everything in their power to make sure your prescriptions, bills and newspapers arrive.

But gratitude alone won't fix the larger problem. Management has made adjustments, but not enough.

Rural routes remain understaffed, and asking carriers to drive hundreds of miles with personal vehicles without proper support is unacceptable.

The Postal Service must offer a maintenance stipend for tires, oil and basic upkeep the same way it keeps up its fleet of postal trucks.

There is no reason for the public to shoulder higher postage rates.

Instead, leadership should take a pay cut until every route is properly staffed.

We applaud the progress made so far, but the fight is not finished.

Keep pressure on management, and keep calling your representatives.

The carriers have held up their end of the bargain. It's time leadership did the same.

COLUMN

The First Flight

Joe Hobby
Contributor

The plane trip began in Tuscaloosa, and stopped in Jackson, before it finally reached Dallas. Later in life, taking this hopscotch flight was as aggravating as a floater in my eye. But not when I was 21 years old. Not when I was headed to my first big job interview — and my very first airplane ride.

I was meeting with a large paper company. Apparently, they liked our first meeting at the University of Alabama, so I was invited to fly out and meet some of the muckety-mucks.

The operative word here is fly. Woo hoo! I certainly was excited when I learned I would be flying to Dallas, although it was no big surprise — how else would I get there? I doubted they would put me on a Greyhound bus. And almost immediately, the college student in me saw another opportunity, one that was almost as important as finding full-time employment. Going to Texas would give me a chance to pick up some Coors beer.

Many of you will recall that for years, Coors, aka Colorado Kool-Aid, was only available in certain states. Because Coors was unpasteurized, it couldn't be shipped on long-distance trips without spoiling. And like anything you can't have, everyone wanted it. This beer had achieved cult status in the east and south. Don't believe me? Go watch "Smokey and the Bandit." Now my interview trip was even more attractive because it was also a beer run.

I was only going to be gone for one night, but I carried the largest suitcase I could find. Certainly, this would leave enough room for several six packs, which would be no problem to get on the plane. Remember, flying back then was not at all like flying now. First of all, Tuscaloosa was a small regional airport. Most of the time the loudspeaker would say, "Now boarding at...gate one." because there was no gate two. Security was non existent. Anyone could almost walk out on the runway. they might even let you help fly the plane if you asked nice. There were no boarding ramps either — it reminded me of the final scene in "American Graffiti," right down to the propeller engines on the planes.

It didn't matter to me. I eagerly hopped on that plane and buckled in. Window seat, of course. Soon the engines roared, and we ascended.

What a fascinating, exciting thing it was to watch objects get smaller as we rose higher. Rivers, trees and buildings shrunk below me. Sometimes I would pick out a tiny car on a county road and wonder about the people inside. Where were they going? Did they know I was watching them? In what seemed like minutes, we landed in Jackson, Mississippi. Another half hour and we were flying west again.

This leg of the trip was nothing like the first one. As dusk fell upon the sky, we ran into a series of very powerful thunderstorms. Looking back now, I count this flight as one of the worst ones I've ever had. The plane dipped and bobbed as it bravely fought through the bad weather. Several times it would drop 50 to 100 feet — eliciting a collective gasp from every passenger — but me. I'd never been on a plane. I thought this was normal. In fact, it seemed kind of fun — like an airborne roller coaster. Weeee! If this had happened today, I would be gripping the armrests so tight that the vinyl would be tearing.

The storms worsened as we neared Dallas. I thought I saw a lady on a bicycle flying beside us — or was it a monster on the airplane wing? After a particularly bad bit of turbulence, the lady sitting beside me asked if I had accepted Jesus Christ as my personal savior. I began to understand why people hated to be airborne.

We continued descending thru flashes of lightning and peals of thunder until the tires bounced hard on the runway. Terra firma. Never has concrete felt so good.

Without delay, I claimed my suitcase/beer carrier, hailed a cab and headed to the hotel. After checking in, I made a quick stop at the lobby bar — I had to have my first taste of Colorado Kool-Aid. That's when I saw a corner table with our pilot, copilot, and flight crew — all downing shots of bourbon. Obviously, they were still recovering from the flight.

Everything else was cut and dried. The muckety-mucks liked me and wanted me to come to work for them, but they didn't have any positions available in the South. So, I was offered a job in somewhere like Albuquerque. I let them know a few days later that I wasn't prepared to leave this part of the country just yet.

And the flight back? It was uneventful and pleasant — smooth air, just a few passengers, and thanks to a quick stop on the way to the airport, a suitcase stocked full of Coors beer.

The Bandit would've been proud.

Joe Hobby is a barbecue-loving comedian from Alabama who wrote for Jay Leno for many years. Find more of Joe's stories on his blog: www.mylifeasahobby.blogspot.com. Follow him on Facebook at Joe Hobby Comedian-Writer.

LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF WANZA DELITA AKRIDGE, Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC 2025-301**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to STEVEN CHAD AKRIDGE and MATTHEW BRIAN AKRIDGE on the 15th day of August, 2025, 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 grant of Letters or within five months from the first publication of this notice, whichever is later to occur or the same will be barred.

Steven Chad Akridge
Matthew Brian Akridge
Personal Representatives

Seth Thompson
Attorney for Personal Representatives
The Thompson Law Firm, LLC
201 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

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

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of WILLIAM KEITH NELSON, Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC2025-265**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to Christopher John Bateh as Personal Representative of the Estate of WILLIAM KEITH NELSON, deceased, on the 19th day of August 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Christopher John Bateh
Personal Representative

Lindsey Eastwood
Eastwood Estate & Probate Law
2001 Park Place, Suite 510
Birmingham, AL 35203

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.

DONE this 19th day of August, 2025.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of RUBEN DOUGLAS SMITH, Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC2025-291**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Testamentary having been granted to Kenneth Jeffrey Smith as Personal Representative of the Estate of RUBEN DOUGLAS SMITH, deceased, on the 22nd day of August 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

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

Kenneth Jeffrey Smith
Personal Representative

Adam S. Gober, Esq.
Attorney for Personal Representative
29000 US Highway 98
Suite A-201
Daphne, Alabama 36526

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.

DONE this 22nd day of August, 2025.

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a public hearing before the Cullman County Commission, Cullman County Commission Office, Cullman County Courthouse, Cullman, Alabama, September 23, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. to receive comment on closing a portion of County Road 1536, more particularly described as being all of County Road 1536, beginning at its southern end at County Road 1534 and ending at its northern end at County Road 1534, which abutting property owners wish to vacate and abandon.

Cullman County Commission
Jeff Clemons, Chairman

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
LELAUS WAYNE ODEN, Deceased. * CASE NO. PC2019-110

NOTICE OF HEARING
APPLICATION TO REOPEN ESTATE

TO: DANNY BRYANT, JARAN BRYANT, JASON BRYANT, SUZANNE BRYANT, TARA SPEARS AND ANY OTHER NEXT OF KIN AND HEIRS OF LELAUS WAYNE ODEN, DECEASED.

Application to Reopen Estate received the 28th day of April, 2025, made Court record the 29th day of April, 2025, by Tammy Hann, Petitioner, by and through Attorney Kenneth R. Widner. A hearing has been rescheduled on this matter for the **21st day of October, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.,** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear if they think proper.

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

Done this the 22nd day of August, 2025.

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

To the Publisher: The Cullman Tribune

Please publish the above notice Three (3) successive weeks in said newspaper.

Kenneth R. Widner
Attorney for Petitioner
PO Box 359
Eva, AL 35621

STATE OF ALABAMA)
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Date & Time of Sale: Monday, Sept 8 2025 at 11:00 a.m./p.m.
Sale Location: Cullman County Courthouse East Entrance
500 Second Avenue, S.W.
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Writ of Execution Parties: Hewlett Packard Financial Services Co.
vs.
Cyber Broadband, Inc.
1520 Bower Drive SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

By virtue of an Execution issued to me by Circuit Clerk Lisa McSwain, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Execution issued on a judgment, with interest and cost. Upon the expiration of proper notice and advertisement, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time, and location listed above, all right, title, and interest of Cyber Broadband, Inc, to the property, described as follows:

Parcel I:
Commencing at the Southwest Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 10 South, Range 3 West; thence North 0°15' West a distance of 659.6 feet to a concrete marker; thence continue North a distance of 76 feet; thence North 89°45' East, a distance of 30 feet to the Point of Beginning of the property herein conveyed, thence continue North 89°45' East a distance of 470 feet to a point; thence North 0°15' West a distance of 281.4 feet to an iron pin; thence South 89° 45' West, a distance of 470 feet, to a point in the edge of County Paved Road No.35; thence South 0° 15" East a distance of 284.3 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 3 ¼ acres, more or less. Said property situated in Cullman County, Alabama.
Source of Title: Deed Book 445, Page 282

Parcel II:
Commence at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 10 South, Range 3 West, Cullman County, Alabama; thence North 89°38'30" East 668.37 feet; thence North 0°14'07" West 659 feet, to the Point of Beginning of the property herein described; thence South 89°25' West 168.54 feet; thence North 0°15' West, 357.40 feet, more or less; thence North 89°45' East 168.54 feet, more or less; thence South 0°14'07" East 357.4 feet, more or less, back to the point of beginning.
Source of Title: Deed Book 455, Page 579

Parcel III:
A part of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 10 South, Range 3 West, being more particularly described as follows: Commence at an existing concrete monument which marks the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 2, thence North 0°15' West 659.29 feet to an existing concrete marker which is the point of beginning of the tract herein conveyed, thence North 89°45' East a distance of 30 feet to an existing iron rebar; thence North 0°15' West a distance of 76 feet to an existing rebar iron; thence continue North 0°15' West to the South right of way of Eva Road; thence Southwesterly along the South right of way of Eva Road to its point of intersection with the West line of the North west Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 2, thence South along said West quarter line to the point of beginning. It is the intent of this deed to convey a 30-foot strip received by the Grantor which was contained within the tract as described in Deed Book 403, Page 343, and thereafter not conveyed.
Source of Title Deed Book 531, Page 308.

Source of title: Pursuant to the description provided in Plaintiff's Writ of Execution issued on or about June 27, 2025 in case CV-2025-900174 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Cyber Broadband, Inc. in and to the above-described real property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 14 day of August, 2025.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

WE NOW HAVE APPLES!

Steele Orchard

Mon-Fri 9-5 | Sat 9-4

1695 County Rd 1141
Cullman, AL 35057
256-734-5249



Auditions (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman Community Theatre will begin hosting auditions this week for its fall production of "12 Angry Jurors."

Cullman Community Theatre Committee Co-chair Kristy McCrickard, who was the director and fight choreographer for the group's recent production of "Fiddler on the Roof," is co-directing "12 Angry Jurors" with Rodney Basenburg, chairman of committee.

McCrickard said the play follows closing arguments in a murder trial, and 12 members of the jury must deliberate in a sequestered room, with a guilty verdict meaning death for the accused, an inner-city teen.

"This production promises all the intense drama that came with the original 1950s movie version of '12 Angry Men' with Henry Fonda," McCrickard said. "Set in our current times, the play version includes women on the jury, thus it is called '12 Angry Jurors,' with the powerful storyline that still rings true today and with the message that is still clear: that jumping to conclusions can be dangerous, that due process and justice are vital and that one voice can make a difference."

The production will be staged in the round, which means the audience will get an up-close and personal view of the acting and almost feel like part of the process, McCrickard said.

"This will be a powerful, important theater program that you don't want to miss," she said. "People can get involved by following us on our social media: Cullman Community Theatre Facebook and Instagram. We have online interest and donation forms — all they have to do is reach out and we will reach back. We are always welcoming new people with various levels of experience. We believe everyone can contribute to theater."

Auditions will be held at Tech Village Cullman (105 Clark St. NE) on Saturday, Sept 6, from 10 a.m.-4; Sunday, Sept 7, from 2-5 p.m. and Monday, Sept 8, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Showtimes are:

- Thursday, Nov. 6, at 7 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 8, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 9, at 2 p.m.

The shows will all take place at The Byre at St. Bernard.

GOLDRIDGE COMMUNITY
10 MILE
YARD SALE
Sept. 5-6, 2025 | County Road 1545

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS
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From Mississippi roots to Alabama fields: The David Russell story

Justin Miller
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — In the heart of the Mississippi pine belt, about an hour south of Jackson, stood a small cattle farm, where working hard and making do with what you had was a fact of life. For a young David Russell, this rural scene of pine trees, cattle pastures and hayfields was home. Today, his Mississippi roots — experiences working on the farm, learning lessons from his family and living a rural Mississippi lifestyle — inspire Russell's work in Alabama fields. Through his roles with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Auburn University, he holds the memories of his family's farm close as he strives to make a difference in the lives of Alabama farmers.

On their Mississippi farm, Russell's dad managed the cattle and land the way that his dad and others in their rural community taught him. Whether that was the right way or the wrong way, he didn't know, but the family worked hard to do the best they could and enjoyed country living.

"Dad would occasionally ask for help from guys at church and whoever he drank coffee with, but most of the time, he just figured things out on his own," Russell said. "Like most people with middle-to-lower incomes, just figuring out how to do stuff was part of life."

Hard work was a pillar in the Russell household, both on and off the farm. Like many small-scale farmers, Russell's dad worked an additional full-time job. He was a surveyor, and later a field inspector, with the Mississippi Department of Transportation. Russell's mom also worked full time as an accountant for a private company. Russell and his brother provided a lot of the muscle and labor on the farm, as they helped their dad build fences, haul square hay bales and do anything that needed doing.

College days

While neither of his parents had a college degree, they valued education and pushed Russell to achieve more than they had.

"Even though they didn't have the experience of navigating the collegiate world, they did what they had to do to get me there," Russell said. "One thing that nobody can ever take away from you is an education. I think that has proven true and taken me a lot of places and given me a lot of opportunities."

While he was still deciding what path to pursue for his major, Russell attended two years of community college. From a young age, he had an appreciation for the outdoors and art. It was a conversation with a department head at Mississippi State University during a career fair that made Russell realize he could combine both into one career.

"It was my grandmother who drove my appreciation for art," Russell said. "In a lot of people's minds, art is completely separate from production agriculture and nature. But landscape architecture combined both of those interests for me."

Introduction to Extension

After earning his bachelor's degree, both interests were still there, but Russell didn't see himself sitting behind a drafting table his entire career.

That led him to pursue a master's degree in agronomy, working with native plants, and a doctoral degree in plant and soil sciences, concentrating in weed science. During this time, Russell was first introduced to Extension.

Even though Mississippi has an active service, Extension was a foreign concept to Russell and his family's farming operation. Thanks to his Mississippi State mentors, John Byrd and Gary Jackson, Russell learned all about Extension's far-reaching impacts.



David Russell

ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

During his doctoral studies, Russell worked full time for more than six years as an Extension associate in Byrd's forage and noncrop weed management program.

In this role, Russell saw the positive impacts Extension can have on a person's farm, when growers adopted practical recommendations that came from his research efforts. This made him think back to his own family's farm and how different things could be done. As an adult, Russell put his new knowledge into action, being the first person to send in a soil test for his dad's operation.

"On our farm, things were done a certain way because that was the way they had always been done," Russell said. "In Extension, you are bringing information to people who may not even know they need that information. I often think about all the ways my dad and our farming operation could have benefited from the shared knowledge delivered by an Extension educator."

This realization and other experiences at Mississippi State heavily influence Russell today in his roles as an assistant Extension professor and Auburn researcher.

Alabama fields

Russell's expertise in weed management runs the gamut. He helps people — including forage and livestock producers, row crop farmers, landowners, property managers, homeowners and even right-of-way managers — understand the importance of a solid weed-management program.

Whether he is providing control recommendations for dogfennel and horsenettle in a pasture or working with a wheat farmer to control Italian ryegrass, Russell works year-round to address the needs, questions and concerns of Alabama residents. A hallmark of these recommendations is that they are fully supported by science-based research that is conducted on local, regional and state levels through the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station system.

Russell's goal is to be a trusted source of timely and practical information while helping people address their immediate needs and providing options for long-term strategies. To accomplish this, he is focused on building and maintaining relationships with people who can serve as Extension's ambassadors in local communities.

"Growing up, the decisions we made on the farm were based on how our neighbors or friends did it," Russell said. "That was our circle of influence there in that small community.

"My dad was not one to venture outside of that circle and attend something like an Extension field day or meeting. A lot of times, to reach people like my dad, it's going to take knowing the influencers in a community. This is why having Extension at the local level is so critical."

While he is a faculty member, Russell does not formally teach in a classroom. For him, the fields, pastures and forestlands across the state are his classrooms, and they change every day. That is what he enjoys most about working for Extension. People all learn in different ways, and he enjoys the freedom to build educational experiences to meet those needs.

"It's this very thing — making a difference in the lives of others — that keeps me going and makes me love my job," Russell said.

Obituary Announcements: Aug. 30 - Sept. 1

Harry Albert Perkins, 79

Harry Albert Perkins, age 79, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Thursday, Aug. 28, 2025. He was born on July 14, 1946, in Arab Alabama to Ed and Wynell Oliver Perkins. Harry is preceded in death by his wife Linda Turner Perkins and his parents. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025, at 1 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Bud Perkins officiating. Visitation will be on Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025, from 11 a.m. until service time at Moss Service Funeral Home. Harry is survived by: 3 daughters: Melinda (Jeff) Denson, Beth Schnittker, Kandi (Chris) Nichols, Sister: Lisa Keith) Knight, brothers: Junior (Judy) Perkins, Bud (Charlene) Perkins, grandchildren: Katie (Kody) Wright, Blake Denson, Kayla (Matthew) Blackmon, Abby (Bailey) Smith, Dow Nichols, Darby Nichols, great grandchildren: Kaleb Wright, Kade Wright, Lindy-Kate Wright, Piper Smith, Mattie-Beth Blackmon and a host of nieces and nephews. Please share condolences and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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.



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

ACES: Cotton jassid confirmed in Alabama

Kacey Watson
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. — In an already stressful and trying growing season, professionals with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System at Auburn University have confirmed an invasive insect, the two-spot cotton leafhopper, in cotton fields in Alabama. The insect is also commonly known as the cotton jassid.

On Aug. 12, Scott Graham, Alabama Extension cotton entomologist and assistant professor at Auburn University, was notified by a retail field advisor that the cotton jassid were present in a commercial cotton field in Henry County, Alabama.

"Since the detection of cotton jassids, new counties with findings are added almost daily," Graham said.

"With updated locations, we are collecting critical information to see how we can best get ahead of this issue. As always, our primary goal is to provide our cotton producers with more answers before our next growing season."

Spot the dots

Alabama cotton growers are encouraged to look out for signs and symptoms of cotton jassids as harvest begins over the next few weeks. Cotton jassids can inflict major damage to cotton plants and are typically found on the underside of the leaf. The petiole — or center stem connecting the leaf to the stalk — is the common striking point for the cotton jassid. With pressure mounting, early detection is key to protecting cotton production for the future.

Identification can be tricky, but some distinctive characteristics can help entomologists and farmers confirm the presence of cotton jassids.

The insects are dime-sized at adulthood. In addition, the most easily identifiable sign of a cotton jassid is the presence of two black dots on each wing.

Unlike other leafhoppers, there are no orange-colored lines on the back of the pest.

With that in mind, there are a few telling symptoms that a cotton plant has been visibly damaged by cotton jassids. "Hopperburn" is the term used for the discoloration of plant leaves that is caused by many species of plant leafhoppers. Hopperburn-stressed leaves turn yellow, red or brown and often curl or pucker at the ends. Although leaf discoloration may resemble potassium deficiency, it can also signal the presence of cotton jassids.

Trials and treatments

"We are pretty concerned about the potential yield losses caused by this highly invasive pest," Graham said. "Since the report, our Alabama Extension row crops team, field specialists and Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station outlying units have begun testing management strategies."

Graham and the teams are utilizing these trials to evaluate the efficacy of pesticides currently labeled for use in cotton. Currently, the threshold for treatment is one to two immature nymphs per leaf.

"While results are not yet conclusive for every trial, Graham recommends that producers follow sound application practices with any pesticide use.

"For the moment, the insecticides dicrotophos, thiamethoxam and sulfloxaflor have consistently provided good control in our trials," Graham said.

"That said, we strongly encourage Alabama producers to approach with clarity by following label recommendations and slow application to ensure maximum results. By guiding proper application, we aim help producers avoid the pitfalls of overusing insecticides."

Native to Asia, the cotton jassid is moving quickly through the southeastern U.S. In 2024, the Florida Department of Agriculture reported detection of the pest only a few months after detections from Puerto Rice and the Virgin Islands.

As of now, findings show the cotton jassid is present in Alabama, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina.

Now confirmed in several Alabama counties, the concern of this pest's rapid movement is not limited to row crop systems.

The cotton jassid is known to be a plant hitchhiker, meaning it disperses through many avenues and establishes populations in new areas. Whether blown by wind or transported on plant material, cargo or vehicles, the cotton jassid has the potential to spread far and wide.

United Front

With that in mind, reporting the presence of cotton jassids is imperative to help not only Alabama cotton farmers, but also Alabama Extension specialists and Auburn University researchers. To slow the spread of hitchhikers, people can do their part by checking nursery stock before purchase. In addition, avoid moving plants across county or state lines without proper inspection. As a result, Alabama Extension and the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries encourage immediate reporting of cotton jassid sightings.

Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries plant protection coordinator Brittaney Allen said the department developed an action plan as fall approaches.

"In response to this pest, we are going to survey cotton fields all over the state starting next week," Allen said.

"This will continue through defoliation and cover hundreds of acres. Working cohesively with our industry partners allows us to be more effective and better protect Alabama cotton production."

Focusing on today and the future, Auburn entomologists and Extension specialists are hopeful that control is possible with the right tools.

"I am learning side-by-side with the Extension regional agents and Experiment Station teams," Graham said.

"We rely on each other to provide timely updates to our stakeholders.

"Sometimes that means we are working early mornings, nights or weekends. We are here to help our industry to answer the tough questions and provide an outlook for an unpredictable future."

More information

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Auburn University are providing continuous updates as developments occur about the invasive species. Read updates at aces.edu or by visiting the web page Alabama Cotton Jassid Update.





Parade (from Front)



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Fairview's Chasity McBrayer (left) and Bella McBrayer (right) enjoy Fairview's Labor Day parade.



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Local hairstylist Kali Jones and her son Grayson Bennefield enjoy Fairview's Labor Day parade.



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE