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The Cullman Tribune

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GARLAN GUDGER

PD. POL. ADV. GUDGER FOR SENATE
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SUNNY

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WSCC ATHLETICS

– SPORTS –

Wallace State Women's Flag Football set to begin inaugural season

» PAGE 4

'Their lives mattered. Their battles mattered. And they will never be forgotten.'

This past week, members of the Cullman Police Department, Cullman County Commission, Cullman County Sheriff's Office and Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs paused to honor and remember all Alabama veterans who have tragically taken their own lives. »



JOEY DUNCAN

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — This past week, members of the Cullman Police Department, Cullman County Commission, Cullman County Sheriff's Office and Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs paused to honor and remember all Alabama veterans who have tragically taken their own lives.

Police Chief Joey Duncan said September » PAGE 4

Holly Pond firefighters participate in 9/11 Memorial Stair Challenge



MIKE HARRISON

Holly Pond Cadet Ty Harrison and Firefighter Woodrow Brown participate in the 9/11 Memorial Stair Challenge on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025.

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — Members of the Holly Pond Volunteer Fire Department participated in the 9/11 Memorial Stair Challenge on Thursday, Sept. 11, in honor of the 343 firefighters who lost their lives on Sept.11, 2001.

Fire Chief Mike Harrison said the stair climb started several years ago as a way to honor those who lost their lives and is the equivalent of climbing the 110 stories of the World Trade Center.

"There are several ways to participate in this challenge. High-rise buildings across the country make their buildings available for participants to use, and fitness centers allow participants to use their stair climbers to complete the challenge," Harrison said.

"This is the first year that Holly Pond Fire and Rescue has participated in the 9/11 stair climb."

Harrison said they partnered with Anytime Fitness of Arab for the challenge.

"Three of our firefighters, Woodrow Brown, Michael Butler and Caleb Graves, as well as one of our fire cadets, Ty Harrison, competed in the challenge," he said.

"Ty Harrison had Anytime Fitness' fastest time while wearing gear, climbing 110 floors in 34:56.

"We are proud of all who participated in this challenge."

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80 YEARS
80 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1943-2023
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OP-ED

Woe to the little eyes haunted by social media » PAGE 5

Sacred Heart to host Oktoberfest German Dinner Oct. 1 » PAGE 8

Bernard Blues & BBQ wraps up 9th annual festival with music, food and fierce competition



JOYCE NIX

Grand prize winners: Mr. and Mrs. Steve Yarger claimed the top prize, followed by Buzz Hundley, who won Grand Reserve Champion. » PAGE 4

Klucsarits formally installed



LAJUAN TALLO/SACRED HEART ALTAR SOCIETY

Fr. Linus Klucsarits, OSB, right, was formally installed as pastor of Sacred Heart Church by Bishop Steven Raica, left, bishop of the diocese of Birmingham on Sunday, Aug. 31, 2025. Fr. Linus was named pastor in June following the reassignment of longtime pastor, Fr. Patrick Egan, OSB.

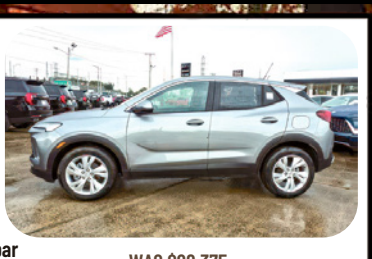
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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Sept. 12

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Sept. 12, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; **FTA** = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Sept. 8

- domestic violence; CR 1682
- possession of controlled substance; I65SB MM291

Sept. 9

- assault; CR 386
- domestic violence; Sunnside Dr. SW
- trespassing; CR 54
- unlawful breaking and entering a motor vehicle; CR 520
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 747

Sept. 10

- assault; Hwy. 69S
- assault; CR 531
- domestic violence; CR 216
- theft of property; CR 317
- harassment; Hwy. 91
- harassment; CR 1481
- domestic violence – menacing; CR 813

ARRESTS

Sept. 8-10

Adams, Jeremy W.; 43
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – DUI (alcohol)

Baker, Frank R.; 50
- FTA – purse snatching, theft with use of force

Boulton, Terri L.; 28
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family

Brown, Chad W.; 35
- PROBATION REVOKED – possession of drug paraphernalia
- PROBATION REVOKED – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Calvert, Shona N.; 38
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- possession of dangerous drugs
- unlawful distribution of controlled substance

Chisolm, John H.; 56
- FTA – theft by deception-4th degree

Clingan, Ronald; 55
- FTA – sex offense-failure of adult sex offender to register with local law enforcement and/ or comply with residential restrictions

Cockrell, Rusty D.; 29
- DRUG COURT SANCTION – possession of drug paraphernalia
- DRUG COURT SANCTION – possession of dangerous drugs

Collier, Nichole D.; 32
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous

Early, Gina R.; 31
- possession of methamphetamine

Eddy, Heather D.; 34
- family offense-causing of delinquency, dependency or need of supervision of children

Fitzgerald, Shanna M.; 38
- FTA – theft-utility diversion

Harris, Patrick L.; 40
- sex offense-failure of adult sex offender to register with local law enforcement and/ or comply with residential restrictions

Hollander, Ryan C.; 43
- resisting arrest

King, Heath A.; 25
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Mauro, Cailla M.; 33
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of dangerous drugs

Mauro, Robert E.; 37
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of dangerous drugs

McCarn, Terry L.; 62
- sex offense-force
- sex offense-incest with minor
- sodomy-1st degree

McDonald, Saig M.; 29
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Moore, Christopher R.; 34
- FTA – assault-child abuse-simple-family
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Parris, Ethan B.; 32
- FTA – driving while license suspended
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance
- FTA – speeding – no workers – construction zone

Reynolds, Tabatha M.; 38
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Simmons, James O.; 45
- cruelty to dog/cat

Singleton, Bobby S.; 49
- FTA – operating vehicle with expired tag
- FTA – DUI(controlled substances)
- FTA – failure to register vehicle
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance
- FTA – switched tag
- FTA – speeding – no workers – construction zone

Smith, Brian P.; 51
- assault-domestic-menacing-gun

Stephens, Obie W.; 41
- auto theft

Thompson, Jr., Johnnie; 62
- FTA – open container-alcohol in a vehicle

White, Keith P.; 51
- auto theft

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Sept. 10
- domestic violence-3rd degree – harassment; person

ARRESTS

Sept. 10-11

Hollander, Ryan C.; 43
- theft of property-4th degree

McCarn, Terry L.; 62
- VOP

Wright, Rachel L.; 35
- theft of property-3rd degree
- forgery-3rd degree

Pike, Justin K.; 35
- theft of property-4th degree

Clingan, Ronald; 55
- FTA – run stop sign
- FTA – driving while suspended
- FTA – insurance violation

Knop, Julie G.; 36
- stalking-2nd degree

Robinson, Dustin L.; 29
- GJ – sexual misconduct

Bagwell, Brooke R.; 38
- FTA – obstructing governmental operations
- FTA – public intoxication
- FTA – DUI (controlled substance)

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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Dodge City Council talks budget approvals, infrastructure projects

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

DODGE CITY, Ala. – The Dodge City Council held its monthly meeting on Thursday, Sept. 11, addressing everything from budget approvals and infrastructure projects to Halloween and Christmas event planning.

A central point of clarification came early in the meeting regarding a previous possibility to purchase a tractor. The council confirmed the deal turned out to be a scam and emphasized for the record that the tractor was not purchased. A separate motion was made and approved to reflect that no funds were spent.

The August financial report showed a general account ending balance of $442,967.78, with $59,043.30 in income and $34,623.38 in expenses. Council members approved the Town's budget, including the sewer budget, and discussed audit costs, which the general fund again absorbed due to sewer account shortages. The council moved forward on phases one and two of a flume ditch and roadwork project, estimated at around $60,000. The work will begin this fall and will be funded through the current fiscal year's $100,000 infrastructure budget. Phases three through five were tabled for October.

A resolution for severe weather preparedness identical to last year's was passed unanimously. Discussion also included the town's trunk-or-treat event. With Life Church relocating and some businesses opting out, officials questioned whether there would be enough community participation. A poll will be posted on local Facebook groups to gauge interest, with a final decision expected at next month's meeting.

Plans were also made for putting up Christmas lights, tentatively scheduled for Nov. 8, weather permitting. If necessary, back-up dates include Nov. 15 and 22.

The council approved a budget not to exceed $150,000 to attend the JM Wood Auction in Montgomery to purchase a tractor with a side boom mower. A letter of credit will be arranged through Peoples Bank for bidding purposes.

Finally, the council set Veterans Day, Nov. 11, at 10 a.m., as the date for the town's flag dedication in honor of former Dodge City Mayor, Anthony Todd. The event will welcome community members and local seniors.

LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
)
BELINDA KILGORE,) Case No. CV-2017-000060.00
)
an Incapacitated Person.)

NOTICE OF FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

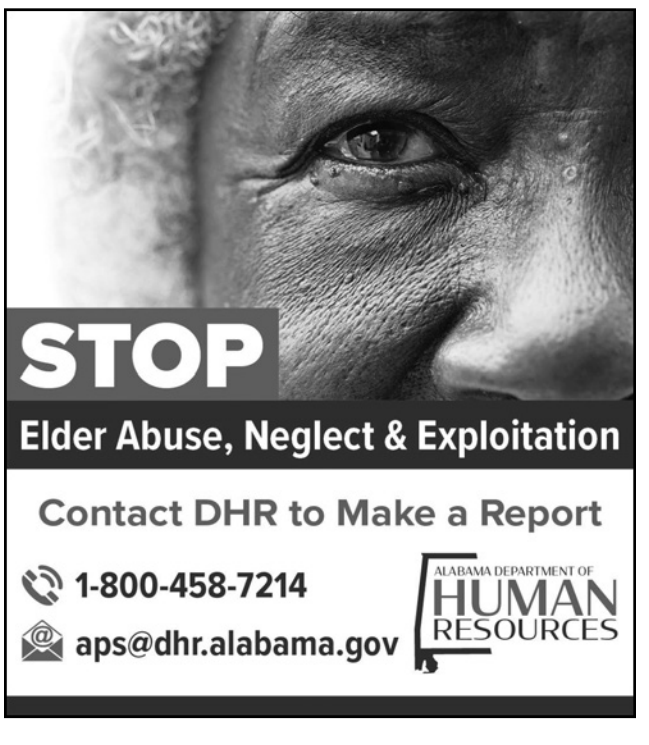
YOU WILL TAKE NOTICE that Shelbie Hankey, as Conservator of the Estate of Belinda Kilgore, an Incapacitated Person, filed her account and vouchers for final settlement of said Estate on the 25th day of August 2025, and that the 6th day of October, 2025, at 9:00 am was appointed to hear said settlement.

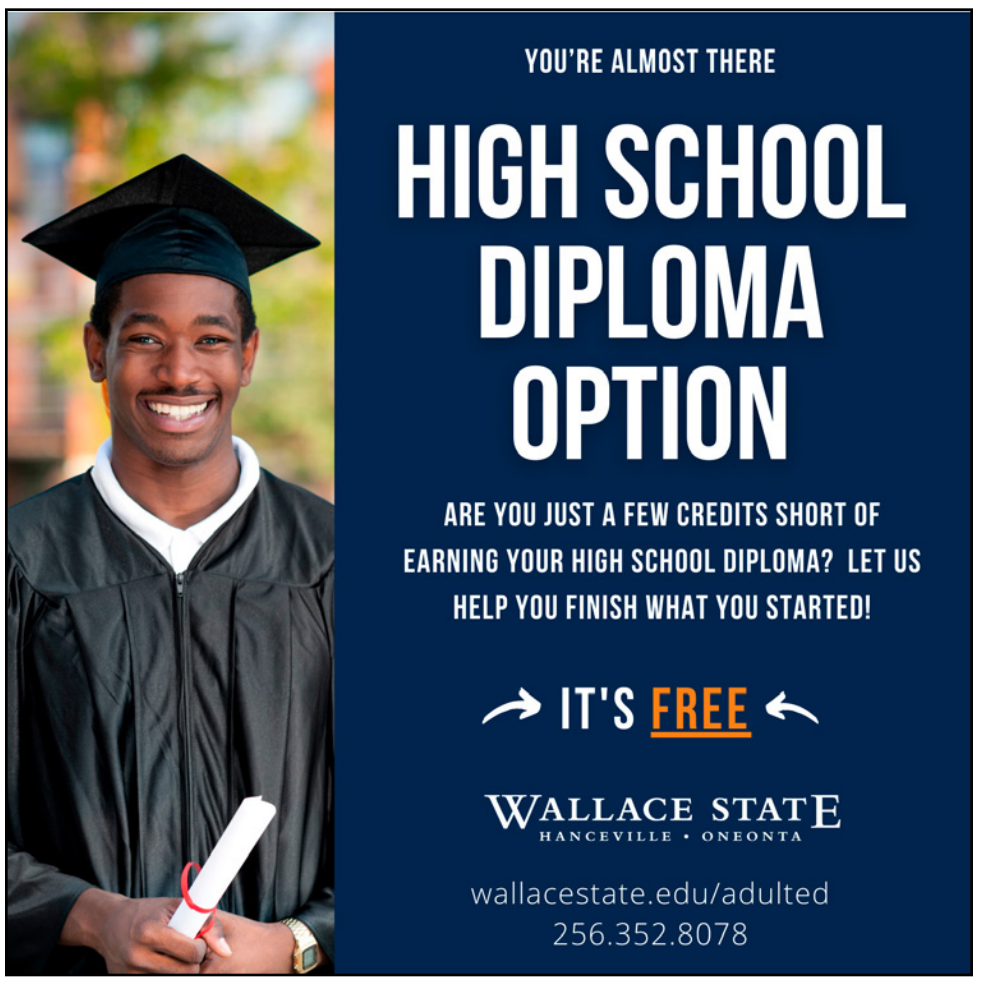
DONE this 3rd day of September, 2025.

Lisa McSwain, Circuit Clerk









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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
• Sunday, Sept. 14 – 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. 5 p.m. healing 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.
• 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. Remaining dates:
• 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
• Friday, Sept. 26, from 6-7 p.m. Poetry Night. You are invited to share your favorite poem with us, or sing a favorite song. This is a free event and open to the public.

North Alabama Agriplex Programs
• www.agriplex.org
• 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.
• Wed, Oct. 1, noon-1 p.m., Lunch and Learn - Exploring Alabama's Wild Places... Enjoy—Value—Protect. Meet Heather Tucker, the new E.D. for Wild Alabama. She will guide us through the conservation history of this organization, while giving us tips on exploring the Bankhead and Talladega National Forests.
• Thursday, Oct. 2, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Elementary – History of Food. Explore the traditional foodways of the Cherokee, their sustainable growing practices and how food connects to their identity and community. $15 fee. $30 Max per family.
• Thursday, Oct. 2, noon-2 p.m., Heritage Homeschool Secondary – All the Ologies - Entomology. Welcome to the world of insects! Gain a deeper understanding of these fascinating creatures and their importance to the environment. $15 fee. $30 max per family.
• Friday, Oct. 3, 10-11 a.m., Little Farmers – The Turnip. 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 per child, max $16 per family.
• Saturday, Oct. 4, 9-10:30 a.m., Farm Kids Club – Creepy Crawlies. First you'll squirm, then you'll smile. Come see all the cool, creepy creatures that help our Ecosystems. Fees: $15 per child, Max $30 per family.
• Monday, Oct. 6, 6-8 p.m., Heritage Skills - Sewing. If you couldn't attend the previous classes, it's not too late! Join us to learn valuable tips, tricks and insights from seasoned sewers. Each class will provide skill instruction and feature a project to apply those skills. Participants must bring a full-size sewing machine. Youth, ages 10 & up must register and be accompanied with a paid registered adult. $20 fee.
• Tuesday, Oct. 14, 6-8 p.m., Living Landscapes - Family Pumpkin Glow. Bring your family for fall treats, pumpkin carving and tales around the bonfire. $30 family fee, includes one pumpkin. $10 per additional pumpkins.
• Thursday, Oct. 16, 6 p.m., Military Veteran & Beginning Farmer – Farm Demo Day. Visit one of our local farmers to see best ag practices with Brandon and Amy Hines.

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.

Pilot Club of Cullman Fall Vendor Market
Saturday, Sept. 20, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center, with free admission.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Singing
Sunday, Sept. 21, at 5 p.m. featuring The Pylant Family. 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- 1862 or 256-590-1501.

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.

28th Annual Falkville Fall Festival
Saturday, Oct. 11, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. in downtown Falkville. Color Me Downtown 5K run and walk, arts and crafts vendors, food trucks, kids' activities, pancake breakfast, live entertainment, tractor show/parade. For more information, go to www.Falkville.org.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School Community Fall Festival
Sunday, Oct. 12, from 2-5 p.m. at 510 Third Ave. SE, in Cullman. This family-friendly event will feature delicious food trucks with something for everyone, a lively dunk tank, a festive Trunk or Treat for kids of all ages and much more fun and fellowship! For more information, contact St. Paul's Lutheran School at 256-734-6580.





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Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

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WSCC FLAG FOOTBALL

Wallace State Women's Flag Football set to begin inaugural season

Wallace State Athletics
WSCC

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — History will be made this fall as Wallace State Community College officially launches its first season of women's flag football. Under the direction of head coach Daniel Howard, the Lions are stepping onto the field as part of the Alabama Community College Conference's first-ever women's flag football season.

A new era for women's sports at Wallace State

Wallace State's decision to start a women's flag football program stems from a commitment to expanding athletic opportunities for female students.

With the sport's rising popularity nationwide—backed by organizations like the NFL and growing local support—the college saw a chance to empower women through competition, teamwork, and community engagement.

Coach Howard sees this inaugural year as more than just a season:

"We're not just starting a team—we're creating a culture, setting the tone for what this program will represent for years to come. I'm thrilled to work with a group of passionate, driven athletes who are ready to break new ground and make history."

Building a Foundation

Recruiting for a brand-new program brought both challenges and opportunities. Howard and his staff looked beyond traditional flag football backgrounds, drawing multi-sport athletes from basketball, soccer, track, and softball who bring speed, agility, and competitiveness. The roster reflects a mix of experience levels, which Howard calls one of the team's biggest strengths.

What he valued most in the first group of Lions were character traits: coachability, toughness, and team-first mindsets. "I wanted players who would help shape the identity and values of this program for years to come," Howard said.

Playing style and early Strengths

On the field, Wallace State plans to play aggressively on both sides of the ball. Offensively, the Lions aim to showcase speed, creativity, and smart decision-making. Defensively, the emphasis will be on disciplined pressure and sound fundamentals.



WSCC ATHLETICS

Wallace State's Womens Flag Football Team will kick off its season Sunday, Sept. 14 at Cullman High School's Oliver Woodard Stadium.

Howard already sees several strengths emerging:

- Athleticism and speed, with players who can make explosive plays.
- Versatility, as athletes from different sports adapt quickly to flag-specific skills.
- Competitive spirit, driven by a desire to prove themselves against established programs.

Goals for year one

Howard defines success in Year One as growth, culture, and impact—both on and off the field.

The Lions want to be competitive in every game, steadily improve as the season progresses, and create excitement within the Wallace State community.

"Our relentless effort can level the playing field against more established programs," Howard said.

"This season is about building connections, laying a foundation, and showing what's possible."

Key matchups and outlook

The Lions open the season at Cullman High School's Woodard Stadium on Sept. 14, hosting Snead State in a doubleheader that kicks off ACCC women's flag football.

Week two takes them on the road to Montgomery, where they'll face Shelton State and Bishop State.

These early tests will give the program its first chance to measure progress against tough competition.

A vision for the future

Howard hopes this inaugural season sparks momentum not just for Wallace State, but for women's sports in the region.

"I want this program to be a catalyst for elevating women's sports—both at our school and in the community," he said.

Looking three to five years ahead, the goal is to establish Wallace State as a competitive force in NJCAA women's flag football, with a strong winning culture and a reputation for developing confident leaders on and off the field.

For Howard and his players, the excitement is palpable:

"There's a unique energy and sense of possibility that comes with being part of something brand new.

"Every practice, game, and moment on this journey is special, and I can't wait to see where it takes us."

WSCC VOLLEYBALL

Wallace State sweeps Bevill State in conference showdown

Wallace State Athletics
WSCC

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — The Wallace State volleyball team thrilled a large home crowd on Wednesday, rolling to a 3-0 (25-16, 25-17, 25-16) victory over conference opponent Bevill State. The atmosphere inside the Tom Drake Coliseum was electric as Wallace State students cheered on the Lions through every serve, kill, and point.

Wallace State jumped out quickly in the first two sets, dominating at the net and forcing early Bevill timeouts in both frames. In the third set, the Lions overcame a slow start with an explosive 14-2 run to regain control. Though Bevill fought back to close the gap after a timeout, Wallace State sealed the win to complete the sweep.

Sofiia Sobol and Makenxie Noles led the Lions offensively with 12 kills apiece, while Rachel Mecklenberg added 10. On the defensive side, Abby McDonald paced four Lions in double-digit digs with 15, followed by Valerie Rodriguez with 11, Sobol with 10, and Ali Price also contributing 10. Price orchestrated the attack with 33 assists.

Head coach Randy Daniel praised the team's overall effort and highlighted standout individual performances.

"I was proud of my team today. I challenged them this morning during practice to play at a higher level and felt we were able to do that more consistently today.

"It was an overall good effort from the team as a whole," Daniel said.

He also noted the impact of his players:

"Sofiia did a great job attacking and scoring for us. Ali Price did great running the offense as the setter.

"Kenzie Noles is gaining confidence and doing great. Rachel had a really good game overall with attacking and blocking. Both middles blocked more effectively today, which has been a focus for us in preparing for games."



WSCC ATHLETICS

The Wallace State Lions Volleyball team swept its conference match with Bevill State on Wednesday.

Lives (from Front)

is Veteran Suicide Awareness Month — a time to raise awareness, break the stigma and stand united in supporting the men and women who served the country.

"As a community, we have a responsibility to stand with our veterans, not just on the battlefield, but long after they return home," Duncan said. "Too many of our heroes are lost to the silent struggle of suicide.

"By raising awareness and breaking the stigma, we can ensure every veteran knows they are not alone and that help is always within reach."

Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry said September is a solemn reminder of the invisible wounds carried by too many heroes.

"Here in Alabama, we've lost veterans not just to war, but to the silent battles that followed them home," Gentry said.

"We remember those who tragically took their own lives, honoring their service and mourning their pain. Let us speak their names, share their stories and commit to being the voice that reaches those still struggling.

"Their lives mattered. Their battles mattered. And they will never be forgotten."

According to the National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report, every day, around 17 veterans in the United States die by suicide — a sobering reminder that our duty to them does not end when they come home.

Everyone can all play a part in making a difference by:

- Checking in on your veteran friends and family
- Listening without judgment
- Sharing resources like the Veterans Crisis Line — dial 988 then press 1 or text 838255 for immediate help
- Supporting local veteran programs and organizations

Festival (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The ninth annual Bernard Blues & BBQ at St. Bernard Prep kicked off on Friday, Sept. 5 as artists and cook teams made their way into Cullman to set up for a weekend of sales, music and competition.

Friday evening brought the One Meat Chicken Competition, where backyard cook teams battled for top honors.

The winners were:

- First Place – Norala BBQ Team – Trinity
- Second Place – Electro-Que-Ted – Dickson, Tennessee
- Third Place – Cluckin Crazy BBQ – Cartersville, Georgia
- Fourth Place – Jury's Out – Vestavia
- Fifth Place – Wee Daddy's BBQ – Athens

The evening also featured the festival's first-ever Kids Q, adding fun and excitement for young grill masters.

Saturday came with its challenges as thunderstorms and torrential rains hit the campus, leaving only a few hours for patrons to shop. Still, the KCBS Backyard Competition pressed on without interruption.

Results were as follows:

- Chicken Competition: First Place – Fire & Shine – Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania ; Second Place – Ghost Hill BBQ – Trinity; Third Place – Smokey Bees BBQ – Meridian, Mississippi
- Ribs Competition: First Place – 205 Smoke – Phil Campbell; Second Place – Fire & Shine- Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania; Third Place – Puddle Duck – Spring Hill, Tennessee
- Grand Champion – Fire & Shine BBQ – Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania
- Reserve Grand Champion – Puddle Duck – Spring Hill, Tennessee

Despite the weather, Conecuh Spokesperson and blues artist Kevin Story entertained the crowd before Microwave Dave took the stage.

By Sunday, the storms had cleared and sunshine filled the air. Guests enjoyed gospel blues from Dr. Craig Mann, instructor at St. Bernard, while behind the scenes, St. Bernard students, parents, faculty and staff provided Southern hospitality, assisting with parking, food service and festival logistics.

The St. Bernard Dining Hall prepared festival favorites in conjunction with Brothers Q Barbeque and 256 Barbeque Cook Teams, cooking smoked pork butts, chicken, ribs, Conecuh Sausage dogs, hamburgers, and more. Specialty treats such as monk bread, sourdough, funnel cakes, strawberry waffles, pastries, cheesecakes, and bread pudding rounded out the offerings.

At 4 p.m. Sunday, the highly anticipated $10,000 Giveaway was held.

Winners included:

- $10,000 – Ashley Taylor, Bremen
- $1,000 – Daniel Green, Eva
- $500 – Walter Hughes, Hoover
- $250 – Margaret Cuny, Ardmore, Tennessee (age 94)

For Ashley Taylor, the timing of her win felt providential. Just hours before the drawing, she had texted her recently engaged daughter, Malaya, "I am gonna win $10K at 4 p.m. today to pay for your wedding. Pray!"

Her daughter replied, "In Jesus Name." When Fr. Joel Martin, president of St. Bernard Prep, announced her as the $10,000 winner, her prayer was answered.

Unable to leave work at Good Hope Medical Clinic, Ashley sent Malaya to claim the prize.

"You have no idea how much this means to our family," she shared. "We have a lot going on with new drivers, new insurance premiums and a wedding to plan. This helps so much."

While celebrating Ashley's joy, St. Bernard extends sincere gratitude to all who supported this year's festival — through donations, volunteering, attending or purchasing T-shirts and raffle tickets online.

St. Bernard will host the 42nd Annual Bloomin' Festival April 18-19, 2026.



Social media (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

Social media is a plague. Two days ago, I opened social media and one of the first videos in my feed was a horrific video of the murder of Charlie Kirk in front of thousands of students.

It was visceral. It was gory. It was horrific.

And it broke my heart. For Charlie, his family and the many students who had to witness it first-hand. It was a reprehensible act of violence that could only be called by what it is: evil.

Yet, my heart broke a little more when I saw the post of a father whose 12-year-old had also seen the same horrific video that I had. I am 33 years old, and while I refuse to believe I have become accustomed to seeing evil, I am not ignorant of the fact that it is so easily accessible through social media and the internet.

As a youth pastor who serves students from 12 through college, I tend to hurt when they hurt. Part of my calling is to understand their burdens and to walk beside them with comfort and wisdom, just as my own youth pastor once did for me. So, knowing that thousands of students sat in a front-row seat to murder — and knowing even younger kids had it dropped into their feeds without ever searching for it — crushes my heart.

For over a decade now, social media has been the progenitor of more hate that I can expand on. I've watched young children killed in wars fueled by power and greed. I've seen kids starved to skin and bone because of corruption and neglect. Death saturates the feed. Looking for racism, hate, injustice, war, famine or savagery? Social media serves it up daily.

It's manipulative, divisive and free of any innocence. It sours friendships, butchers faith and puts visceral imagery in front of innocent eyes. It is eye opening and eye closing. It lacks empathy and couldn't care less about the age or maturity of the person using it.

It carries evil in a golden chariot, with a false king masquerading as friend and savior, all while silently draining the life from them.

But does that mean that all social media is bad? That's not an easy thing to answer. I believe a small candle can burn brightly in a dark room — but it's still a dark room.

Look, I'll be the first to admit there are good things I see online. I love recalling the MySpace days and the early Facebook years. I love seeing my pastor's wife share videos of her singing Gospel music that uplifts my soul. I love watching friends share milestones in their families' lives. I love seeing my students achieve their goals in life. And though it's often painful, I appreciate the ability to be able to grieve alongside friends, even if it is with just a few words on a screen.

"Well, Gauge, I just don't believe 12-year-olds should have social media."

Maybe you're right, and I would even go so far as to agree with you, but is that the point? Social media bleeds into every facet of our lives. Even if a child doesn't have an account, those screenshots get passed around. They get reshared in their schools, in the locker rooms and yes, even in church.

We were kids once, too. We know those conversations.

"Bro, did you hear the news? It's bad, but look at this."

"Did you see that video of that guy getting murdered?"

"Did you see that video of those kids getting blown up by a rocket?"

"Did you see that video of that soldier having a drone bomb dropped on him?"

Did you see... Did you see...

It never ends.

And sooner or later, your "innocent, non-social media" child will end up seeing it second-hand.

You see, that's the thing about evil. Evil is not in the game of patience. It's not waiting for curious eyes to stumble across it. Evil hunts. What better game than those innocent eyes waiting to be shaped? It hunts them on every screen they touch, through nearly every platform they are witness to.

That same evil that seeks to desensitize us as adults seeks to shape the mind of those who come next. And social media stands as its most effective harbinger.

So, what then? Can we win against it? I'd be a liar if I didn't say I sit right there with you, asking all the same questions.

But one truth I know is this: we cannot be passive against evil. We can't just hope that "my child will never see those things." That's not enough. We must be the gatekeepers to their hearts and minds during their most transformative years.

This doesn't mean you shelter them from the world, either. The world will come for them. But we can provide them with the wisdom and the guardrails of discernment to know what is good from evil. My guardrails come through my faith in Jesus Christ, which gives me discernment I would not otherwise have — and the responsibility to shepherd my own children in that discernment. But even if you disagree with my faith, invest in them in the discernment that guides them toward what is good and full of life.

Ask them the hard questions before the world gives them counterfeit answers. Teach and allow them to think critically. Set boundaries so they know where the lines are and when they are crossed. Say "no" with purpose and action.

And in the worst case, when your child comes home after having seen the horrors that they were never meant to view, be intentional with unloading that weight from their shoulders. Be present.

The best advice I can give you after many years of working with students is to sit with them and be a listening ear first. Allow them to grieve and grieve with them. Then, be a voice of comfort, truth and good in their lives.



GAUGE DAY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Innocence is worth keeping whole.

To the students out there who are conflicted by what they saw or have seen, there will always be evil to be seen and viewed and cheered on. My heart breaks for all of you to live in a world that cheers for it, whether it be murder or war.

I know that many of you view social media as an absolute necessity and would be lost without it for a day. I've been there, too. But hear me — who you are and the worth that you are measured by has nothing to do with the likes, views and followers you have on social media. Those are empty numbers. Your life matters infinitely more than the evil that seeks to tell you there is no hope through a phone screen. Guard your heart from evil. You are worth it.

And to the rest of us — parents, churches, schools, communities — we can't keep pretending like we don't have a voice here. Social media will raise your children if you let it, and it will age them rapidly. The sour fruit it bears is one of conflict, despair and a loss of innocence that a child can never get back.

But we are not without hope. That little candle that flickers in a dark room is the antidote. It begins with us modeling a better way, one backed by truth and unity. Evil doesn't have to have the last say if we choose to fight it. So, fight.

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Obituary Announcements: Sept. 11-12

James Earl Edge, 86
James Earl Edge, age 86, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025. Mr. Edge is survived by his daughter, Jamie Edge Nelson; his son, James Robert (Leigh) Edge; and his son in law, David W Lee; his sister, Deborah McAfee; his grandchildren, Chad (Meghan) Nelson, Brandon (Bethany) Lee, Patrick Nelson, Justin Ross (Sara) Lee, Tyler Edge, Nathan (Mariah) Edge, Oliver (Isabella) Edge, Annalee (Alex) Miller; and 9 great-grandchildren. Mr. Edge was preceded in death by his wife, Sandra June Edge; his daughter, Cindy Edge Lee; his mother, Edna Roselle Edge and his father, Robert Oliver Edge. Mr. Edge was a long-time member of Cullman First Baptist Church. He began working at Cullman Cabinet as a young child and with his family helped to grow the business into what it is today. Mr. Edge also enjoyed woodworking as a hobby and raised money for CRMC through his project "Pens for Purpose" by donating his hand-turned finely crafted pens. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. A visitation for Mr. Edge will be held Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church-Cullman, 501 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055. A celebration of life will occur Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., 501 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055. A committal service will follow at Cullman City Cemetery, Ninth Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the First Baptist Church-Cullman Building Fund. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Pauline Allen Hawkins, 83
Pauline Allen Hawkins, age 83, of Crane Hill, Alabama, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025. She was born in Blount County, Alabama, to Hermon Wade and Lois Bethlene Murphree Allen. Pauline was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Melvin Lee Hawkins; her parents; and siblings: Wadie Edwards, Bonnie Ruth Sherrer, Betty Ruth Scott, and James Harold Allen. She is survived by her loving son, Rodney Hawkins; sisters, Shirley Dian Mason and Leddie Maxine Cooper; and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, and cherished friends. The family will receive friends at Livingston Chapel in Crane Hill, Alabama, on Monday, September 15, 2025, from 1 p.m. until the Celebration of Life service begins at 3 p.m. Burial will follow at Livingston Chapel Church Cemetery. To leave condolences or share memories with the family, please visit mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home is directing.

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LEGALS

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY B. CULWELL, Deceased. * CASE NO.: PC2023-303

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to DOROTHY Y.C. ROBINSON, as Personal Representative of the Estate of DOROTHY B. CULWELL, deceased, on the 21st day of September, 2023, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

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

DOROTHY Y.C. ROBINSON
Personal Representative

G. Edward Coey
Attorney for Personal Representative
Post Office Box 834
Hanceville, Alabama 35077
256-352-2090

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 PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF:)
)
LUCAS WAYNE DARNELL,) **CASE NO. PC-2025-0285**
)
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION of said deceased having been granted to **MYRA DARNELL** on the 4th day of September, 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 the latter to occur or the same will be barred.

/s/MYRA DARNELL
MYRA DARNELL, Administrator of the Estate of LUCAS WAYNE DARNELL

Seth B. Thompson, Attorney for Petitioner Myra Darnell

Of Counsel:

The Thompson Law Firm, LLC
201 Second Avenue Southeast
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Phone: 256.734.4591
Fax: 866.826.4785

TO THE PUBLISHER OF THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2025-015

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JAMES BRIAN CORDES and TERRI NORENE CORDES.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: MICHAEL GRIMM, whose whereabouts and location are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of G.M.G., a minor child born April 3, 2012, to Rebecca Louise Allen Demlow was filed on the 23rd day of May, 2025, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners James Brian Cordes and Terri Norene Cordes. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 10th day of September, 2025.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION THE PETITION OF KAREN DIANNE COOK, FOR THE ADOPTION OF
L.A.D. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 12-17-2015
CASE NO.: AD 2025-027

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: HOPE OLIVIA DAUKSZA, BOILOGICAL MOTHER
JACOB IAN DAUKSZA, BIOLOGICAL FATHER
WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN

Please take notice that a *Petition for Adoption* of L.A.D., a minor child born on December 17, 2015, to Hope Olivia Daukska, was filed in the Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama by Karen Dianne Cook, Petitioner. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within Thirty (30) days from the date of the last notice of publication. Your response must be filed with Counsel for said petitioner, whose name and address are shown below, and with the Clerk of Probate Court, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman County, Alabama.

DONE THIS 10th DAY OF September, 2025.

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

Dean R. Smith
Attorney for the Petitioner
413 First Avenue SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI
PROBATE DIVISION

FILED
JUL 21 2025
CYNTHIA LEE
Circuit Clerk, Howell County

In Re the Guardianship of:)
MATTHIAS MACCABEE HOOD,)
) **Case No:**
MARK HOOD and,)
ANDREA HOOD)
Petitioners,)

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

NOW on this 18th day of July, 2025 the Motion and Affidavit of Mark Hood and Andrea Hood, Petitioners, coming before the Court and the same having been considered finds that personal service cannot be made upon the biological father of the minor child, Matthias Hood, because his whereabouts is unknown to the Petitioners; therefore, service by publication is necessary upon the biological father.

The Clerk of the Court is directed to issue a Notice of Service by Publication to be published in the Coleman County Tribune for four (4) weeks.

So Ordered:

Honorable

LISA MCSWAIN, CL

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ERCER TRANSPORTATION CO. INC.,)
PLAINTIFF,)
S.) **CASE NO. CV- 2025-900128.00**
HRISTOPHER BOYD,)
DEFENDANT.)

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

That a Complaint has been filed with the Circuit Court of Cullman County in the above styled cause. Any concerned parties must answer to this notice by the 27th day of September, 2025, or thereafter a Judgment by default may be rendered in this cause.

DONE this the 24th day of July, 2025.

Lisa McSwain
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JORDAN LEE WILSON, * CASE NO PC 2024-070

PETITION FOR DECLARATION OF DEATH PUBLICATION

A *Petition for Declaration of Death* of the above-named missing individual believed dead, has been filed by Judith Thomas, Petitioner, through Attorney Dan J. Willingham. The missing individual, if alive, or any other individual having evidence that the missing individual is alive, is required to produce and present to the court evidence that the individual is still in life **by or before the 4th day December, 2025.**

DONE this the 4th day of September, 2025.

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

Dan J. Willingham
Attorney for Judith Thomas
413 1st Ave, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA, EX REL JOHN R. COOPER, DIRECTOR OF THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Plaintiffs,
v. CASE NO PC 2025-308
E. HOMER DAVIS; DOLLY R. DAVIS; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ARTHUR WAYNE VINTSON; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MATTIE L., VINTSON; CITY OF HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA, HANCEVILLE FIRE & RESCUE; BARRY WILLINGHAM, CULLMAN COUNTY REVENUE COMMISSIONER; ANY UNKNOWN PARTY OR PARTIES CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL ID: 23-01-11-0-001-017.003 ON HIGHWAY 91 IN CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA;
Defendants.

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION TO CONDEMN REAL PROPERTY AND FOR AN ORDER OF CONDEMNATION

TO: E. HOMER DAVIS, DOLLY R. DAVIS, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ARTHUR WAYNE VINTSON, UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MATTIE L. VINTSON, CITY OF HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA, HANCEVILLE FIRE & RESCUE, BARRY WILLINGHAM, CULLMAN COUNTY REVENUE COMMISSIONER, OR ANY UNKNOWN PARTY OR PARTIES CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL IS: 23-01-11-1-001-017-003 ON HIGHWAY 91 IN CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Petition to Condemn Real Property and for an Order of Condemnation filed by the State of Alabama Ex Rel John R. Cooper, Director of the of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Plaintiff, through Attorney, John E. Rollins. A hearing is scheduled on this matter for the **3rd day of October, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman, Alabama.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear at which time they or any other parties interested in said cause may appear and contest the same if they think proper. Please note that an answer may be filed by each defendant within 30 days from the date of the last publication notice.

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

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Go get your shoes on

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



When I was a kid, I always got excited when Mama said, "Go get your shoes on." That meant we were about to go somewhere. I have always loved going somewhere... anywhere. Although, I'm now at that stage-and-age in life when I also love not having to go somewhere. I am much more content to spend some quiet time at home. Right now, as I write this column, I am sitting on my back porch. The sun is shining, but it feels like fall. As I gaze at the woods behind my house, I have spotted one small patch of orange leaves in a tree. I sense that summer is slipping into the shadows. It is so peaceful out here. Half of my porch is covered and the other half is open deck. I am on the covered end and Cocoa (15) is sunbathing on the other end. There is a gentle breeze blowing and the sun has begun its slow descent for the day. I could stay out here forever, but I do have go somewhere in a little while. I know I won't hear it, but I still listen for Mama's voice to call for me to go get my shoes on.

Isn't it funny what we miss, when the ones we love are no longer with us? How things change.

I also have my shoes on already, because I don't go barefoot anymore. When I was growing up, the shoes came off when school let out. Do I mean for the day or for the summer? Yes.

Back then, usually, I only had two pairs of shoes at a time. I had school shoes and Sunday shoes.

Sunday shoes were polished on Saturday evenings and only worn to church the next day.

Sometimes I had work shoes or play shoes. Normally, those were an old pair of school shoes, if they were still in one piece and I had not outgrown them. Once school was out for the summer, I was usually out of my shoes until fall came back around. I loved going barefoot back then but not so much anymore.

Even inside the house, I usually have on shoes. I think that is because I'm not tough anymore. I'm not saying I could walk on hot coals with bare feet back then, but I could walk on just about everything else.

The bottoms of my feet were so hardened I could run on our chert covered road with no pain...unless I got a stone bruise. Now, I can step on a runaway Cheerio with bare feet, and it almost feels like a jagged boulder under my soft soles!

Stray Cheerios are just one of the hazards of not wearing shoes. I almost lost a toe once when I stomped down on the broken bottom of a glass bottle hidden in the grass.

We "thought about" going to the doctor for stitches. I always hated it when I stepped on a burning cigarette butt. Everybody seemed to smoke back then, especially when they visited my dad's store.

Most of them threw their cigarette butts on the ground or floor. I accidently put out my fair share of them with my bare feet. That felt almost as good as stepping on a live wasp or yellow jacket. Maybe those "wonderful" memories are why I stopped going barefoot!

I rarely go barefoot these days, except occasionally, maybe, perhaps on an early fall Sunday afternoon as I sit on my back porch and write. It's almost time to go to my meeting. I guess I had better get my shoes back on!

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-728-5514 (office).

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Sept. 13, 1962

From the files of Sept. 13, 1962

Notes Of A Cullman High Senior . . .

Eureka! We did it! Yes, I mean in the Magazine Drive. Yes, we've broken all records of the past 13 years. We've already gone over the top and have got until Tuesday to end it, as we have decided to cut it three days short. Our grand total to date is $2,591.50. Seniors on Work Day alone got $591.25.

This week the Seniors had a call meeting when they decided who would make our pictures. It seems as though Mr. Schlosser will have the job this year. We have from now until the first of October to get them made so we will be able to get them by Christmas.

As far as it is known right now, Cullman High will close for Fall vacation on September 14.

Miss Marise Daves, who is the Girl's Physical Education Director, is leaving this next week for New York City where she will attend the University of New York. Miss Loretta Dyer, who was our director last year, will accompany her. They are going to begin work on their Master's Degree there. We really hate to have them leave us.

Cullman Bearcats really got wound up Friday night when they were victors over Cleveland which is the last game for the summer session. Score was 33-13 in Cullman's favor. After the game everyone enjoyed a dance in the gym.

—Dignified.

To and Fro
BY EAGLE EYE

After 28 months in the South Pacific, Sgt. M. Speegle, has returned to his home. He is the son of Mrs. C. A. Pinkerton and the late Mr. Pinkerton. He was in the invasion of Emirau and Leyte.

A Cullman County farmer contributed a truck load of corn to the celebration of V-J Day on August 14. However, he was unable to find a place to park his truck. He was told that it was being held by teenage celebrants at the City Park. He drove to the City Park and found no place to park. He had arrived in Decatur too late for the celebration. He parked his truck on Second Ave. and went to the celebration. The truck was loaded with corn and didn't stop until the truck had been emptied. The corn was given to the merchants. The merchants were to sell the corn and the money was to be given to the celebration. The farmer was offered $45, but he only took $25. He said he wanted to donate at least $5, to the celebration.

From Formosa, T-Sgt. Frank D. Creel, of Campbell, writes that he wants to thank his friends at Trade and since the war is over he hopes to be home soon.

Serving aboard the U.S.S. The Sullivans, in the Western Pacific, are Pfc. Millon C. of Joppa. The Sullivans, named in honor of the five Sullivan brothers, George, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert, of Waterloo, Iowa, who were killed in the Guadalcanal campaign, took part in the New Guinea campaign, the Marshall Islands engagements, the Marianas, New Hebrides, the Philippines, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. On her shakedown cruise she was attacked by a Japanese submarine.

On his ship ready to sail directly from England, after he had been five months, to Manila was Pfc. William J. Jones, when the news of the Jap surrender reached him and his ship was ordered to New York. He is now at home with his wife, and baby Gail and plans to go back to his job at the Coca-Cola Co. He is now reporting to Camp Gordon, Ga. He is one of the lucky ones.

Two Cullman County men are among the first Alabamians to be released from the Navy on points. They are J. C. Oliver, 29, of Joppa, and J. C. Oliver, 26, of Joppa. Cullman were the two.

Among the first Cullman County infantry men to arrive in Tokyo was Pfc. Floyd D. Miller, of Crane Hill. When he left the Pacific last year, he said he never expected to see his wife, the former Sue Bradford, who received the first letter from him in Tokyo, saying that when peace came his outfit was ready for the invasion of Japan. He was in the equipment for the initial invasion of Japan. Of course, he was happy to be at home in Tokyo instead of the Pacific. He had expected.

The Bronze Star has been awarded to Pfc. Bennie O. Scott, S 1/c, has written of his participation in the Japanese surrender. He was on the USS Scott, "Mindoro Island" on to Formosa, the Philippines, Borneo, Hong Kong, China, Okinawa, Iwo Jima, Yokosuka, Cape Shioro, the last eighty consecutive days, he was at sea during the fighting for a minute, rearming and refueling at sea.



LYRIC

Saturday and Sunday - -
Radio's Popular Entertainers
ROY ACUFF AND HIS SMOKY MOUNTAIN BOYS — LULU-AND SCOTTY
THE MILO TWINS
and
BRAD TAYLOR and RUTH TERRY in
"SING NEIGHBOR SING"

Monday and Tuesday - -
THREES A CROWD
and
"SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH"

Wednesday and Thursday -
THE EAST SIDE KIDS
in
"MR. MUGGS RIDES AGAIN"

Coming Next Week—
DILLINGER

POET'S CORNER

Late Bloomers | By: Randy C. Hale

I would love to hear from you if you enjoy Poet's Corner. Randyhale62@yahoo.com

And now it is September, and most
of my pretty sunflowers are gone.
Having bloomed in their finest hours.
Their heads bowed in brown.
To wait for me to cut them free for the finches and pull their barren stalks
from the earth

But there in the corner of my almost
empty garden are a few late stalks
still growing. Johnny-come-lately.
With the big show over and gala ceased. Something in this wilted garden
will soon be bright with their heads
held high and fluorescent.

Some children are not at the front
of the line or trailblazing trendsetters.
Yet, come forth in their special time.
Often when needed most in someone's
barren life, a grace.
A late bloomer, blossoming in the cool
of fall before the freeze of winter.



CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

SEPT. 13

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K	A	A	O	E	L	S	N	L	B	D	C	F	R	S
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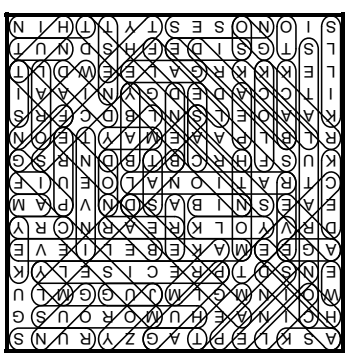
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

SEPT. 13

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	7				9	5		
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	3		7	5		2		
	8		1		6			7

ANSWERS:



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



CONTRIBUTED

Sacred Heart Altar Society members prepare dinners for drive through/take out at the Oktoberfest Dinner in 2024. The Society offers an authentic German menu during the city's annual Oktoberfest celebration. The $15 per plate dinner will be held this year at the church on Wednesday, Oct. 1, beginning at 4 p.m.

Dinner (from Front)

LaJuan Tallo
Sacred Heart Altar Society

CULLMAN, Ala. — As has been its long-standing Oktoberfest tradition, the Sacred Heart Altar Society is gearing up to offer its traditional German Dinner on Wednesday, Oct. 1, from 4-7 p.m. in the Family Life Center at the church.

This year, as in the past, the dinner will feature a menu of bratwurst, German potato salad, sauerkraut, green beans, applesauce, bread and a homemade dessert. Many of the recipes used have been passed down from generation to generation according to Pat Arentz, who heads up the dinner for the Altar Society.

The meat used in the dinner comes from Brickyard Meats in Cullman, which is owned by a family of Sacred Heart parishioners.

"This is a huge undertaking for us, but it comes with great rewards," said Arentz. "Our church members, old and young, show up to help with clean up, serving, cooking and peeling potatoes and preparing delicious desserts. We could not do this without our volunteers. It's really a community effort here at Sacred Heart."

Dinners are $15 a plate and are available for dining in or drive through/take out.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church is located at 205 Third Ave. SE in downtown Cullman.



THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

