

The Cullman Tribune

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314 2ND AVE. SE, CULLMAN 35055

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MOSTLY SUNNY

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AUBURN ATHLETICS

– SPORTS –

Steven Pearl named Auburn Men's Basketball Head Coach

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Cullman County Schools addresses bus incident, bullying concerns

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County Schools is addressing concerns from parents and the community following a recent student fight on a school bus that was recorded and widely shared online.

In a statement released earlier this week, the district said the matter was "handled swiftly and effectively."

Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette spoke with The Tribune to provide further details on how the district responds to bullying, online harassment and the spread of sensitive content.

Barnette said no two bullying cases are alike, and administrators work to gather as much evidence as possible before taking action with discipline. » PAGE 5



CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette

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80 YEARS
80 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1943-2023
Thank you, Cullman, for the best 80 years of our lives.

Victim Services announces new name: The Willow Path



LAUREN ESTES/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Victim Services of Cullman held its fifth annual Masquerade Ball Thursday evening, Sept. 25, 2025, at Stone Bridge Farms. Not only did the local nonprofit welcome its biggest crowd to date and raise more money than in previous years, it also announced its new name: The Willow Path.

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Victim Services of Cullman held its fifth annual Masquerade Ball Thursday evening, Sept. 25, at Stone Bridge Farms. Not only did the local nonprofit welcome its biggest crowd to date and raise more money than in previous years, it also announced its new name: The Willow Path.

Executive Director Jessica Atchley announced the name change and re-brand of the organization — effective Friday, Sept. 26.

"The night was a tremendous success," Atchley said.

"The energy in the room was powerful — we could feel the community's love, support and excitement not only for our mission, but also for our future as The Willow Path.

"From the auctions to the rebrand reveal, it all came together beautifully."

With around 300 attendees and thousands raised, she said, this was a record-breaking event.

"We're still finalizing totals, but the night brought in an estimated $50,000 between sponsorships, ticket sales, auction items and Lucky Draw," Atchley said. "This was a record-breaking year for us in both attendance and dollars raised."

She also explained the significance of the willow tree in the nonprofit's rebranding.

"The willow tree has long symbolized resilience, renewal and growth," Atchley said.

"Even in the strongest storms, willow branches bend without breaking, much like the survivors we serve who face unthinkable challenges yet continue to rise. 'The Willow Path' reflects both a place of safety and a journey forward — rooted in strength, guided by hope and always moving toward healing."

She expressed gratitude to everyone who attended, donated, sponsored and volunteered for the Masquerade Ball.

"None of this would be possible without our community standing with survivors," Atchley said.

"Last night wasn't just a celebration — it was a declaration that Cullman cares, and together we're building a safer, brighter future."

During the ball, Atchley also announced the launch of three new in- » PAGE 3

Cullman County Commission adopts $58M FY2026 budget

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Alabama Public Service Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden announces re-election campaign

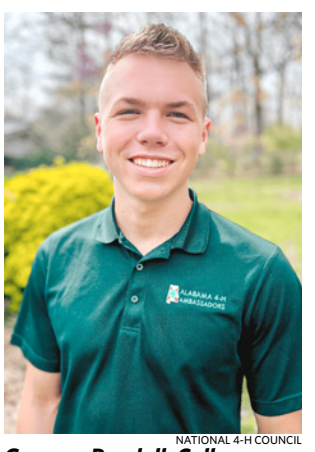


CONTRIBUTED

Jeremy H. Oden

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Cullman County 4-H member Grayson Randall named runner-up for National 4-H Award



NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL

Grayson Randall, Cullman County 4-H member and 4-H State Ambassador was selected as runner-up for the 2025 National 4-H Youth in Action Award. » PAGE 4

EDITORIAL

Courage in action

» PAGE 5

TURN OVER A NEW LEAF WITH BILL'S DEALS!
GMC DEALER OF THE YEAR 7 YEARS IN A ROW!



CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Sept. 26

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Sept. 26, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Sept. 22

- assault; CR 109
- criminal mischief; CR 1684
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69S
- domestic violence; Julia Ln.
- using false identity to avoid arrest; I65SB MM 308
- attempt to elude law enforcement officer; Ratliff St. NE
- burglary; Commercial St. SE
- reckless endangerment; Trimble Rd.
- theft of property; N. Montcrest
- domestic violence; CR 387
- theft of property; CR 108

Sept. 23

- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; CR 1142
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69S
- theft of property; Arkadelphia Rd. NE
- harassment; CR 1142
- theft of property; CR 695
- theft of property; CR 1545
- trespassing; CR 437
- stalking; CR 1101
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1865

Sept. 24

- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; I65SB Exit 308
- domestic violence – criminal mischief; CR 703
- burglary; Hwy. 67
- criminal mischief; harassment; CR 621
- domestic violence; CR 468
- theft of property; CR 1342
- harassment; Sunnyside Dr. SW
- possession of controlled substance; attempt to elude law enforcement officer; CR 1640
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 69S

ARRESTS

Sept. 22-24

Agricola, Benjamin A.; 18
- flight/escape – permitting/facilitating escape

Black, Shannon I.; 39
- FTA – illegal possession of prescription drugs
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Boatright, Trey A.; 29
- unauthorized use of a vehicle-failing to return to owner at the agreed upon time

Boshell, Rodney D.; 52
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of dangerous drugs

Brown, Anthony T.; 39
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Brown, Jeremy C.; 52
- FTA – sex offense-failure of adult sex offender to register with local law enforcement and/ or comply with resid restriction

Bunn, Patsy A.; 60
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Chandler, Rodney N.; 48
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, $500-less than $1500
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled

Davis, Candice J.; 44
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- promote prison contraband (drugs)

Duncan, Stephanie L.; 49
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Eddy, Sandy D.; 43
- possession of methamphetamine

Esposito, Jan M.; 45
- cruelty to dog/cat
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Freeman, Mason L.; 27
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled

Hale, Matthew B.; 25
- assault-harassment

Henderson, Corey M.; 37
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

James, Jennifer D.; 53
- FTA – driving without drivers license

Johnson, Jordan A.; 30
- escape

Joseph, II, Peter A.; 59
- FTA – forgery-counterfeiting
- FTA – theft-theft of property-2nd degree, $1500-2500

Link, Sommer A.; 44
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Moctezuma, Camila M.; 28
- FTA – assault-child abuse-simple-family
- attempting to elude a police officer
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Moore, Christina J.; 48
- resisting arrest
- disorderly conduct/disturbing peace/affray

Moreno, Jr., Jonathan S.; 31
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Morgan, Jr., Christopher A.; 27
- FTA – theft-shoplifting, less than $500

Shearin, Jordan L.; 27
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Taylor, Brandi L.; 50
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of dangerous drugs

Tennyson, Christopher M.; 38
- obstructing justice using a false identity-using person's identification documents or identifying information

Thomson, Ashton M.; 23
- criminal trespass

Thursby, Jr., Terry W.; 37
- sale of stolen property, less than $500

Turney, Elizabeth A.; 43
- criminal trespass

Wagnon, Jr., Jeffrey S.; 41
- PROBATION VIOLATION – possession of dangerous drugs
- PROBATION VIOLATION – escape

Weaver, Alex G.; 27
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA – domestic violence-3rd degree – harassing communications
- FTA – interference with a domestic violence emergency call

Williams, Dale R.; 58
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled

Winfrey, Leigha S.; 38
- assault-child abuse-simple-family

Yates, Jr., Jimmy L.; 38
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sept. 24
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $222; Hwy. 157

Sept. 25
- theft of property-2nd degree; Eva Bank; cash
- theft of property; Dollar General; general merchandise; 3rd St. SE

ARRESTS

Sept. 24-25

Sturgeon, Christopher M.; 36
- FTA – domestic violence-3rd degree
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – driving without license

Williams, Dale R.; 58
- FTA – driving without license

Naraez, Eliberto V.; 63
- unlawful possession/receiving of a controlled substance
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Harris, Onis S.; 33
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA – criminal trespass-2nd degree
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- FTA – public intoxication

Freeman, Mason L.; 27
- FTA – driving while revoked (2 counts)
- FTA – insurance violation
- FTA – run red light

Graves, Angela M.; 52
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Baker, Frank R.; 50
- public intoxication

Muse, Robert A.; 34
- theft of property-4th degree

Navarro, David M.; 46
- FTA – insurance violation

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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Obituary Announcements: Sept. 25-26

Onvie Ruth Voyles, 67
Funeral service for Onvie Ruth Voyles, 67, will be Sunday, September 28, 2025, at Antioch Baptist Church at 2 p.m. Visitation will be at the church from 1-2 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Ruth passed away Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at Hanceville Nursing Home. She was born December 16, 1957, to parents, James Edwin & Vera Ogie McIntosh Maynard. She loved her family and her nursing home family. She really enjoyed the activities at the nursing home and loved her church and her Lord. She was a big Alabama fan. She was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters, Carolyn Maynard, Joan Allred, Beverly Maynard, and Judy Maynard. Survivors include her brother, Wade Maynard (Marie); nephew, Scott Allred (Carley); nieces, Katie Osborne (Jared), Chelsea Avery (Austin); great nephews and nieces, David Allred (Kayle), Reese Osborne, Wyatt Osborne, Greyson Avery, Blakely Avery; two great great nephews, Jaiden and Eli Allred and one great great niece, Trinity Grace Allred; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

David "Richard" Roberson, Jr., 42
David "Richard" Roberson, Jr. passed away on September 24, 2025, at the young age of 42. Richard was currently residing in Fyffe, Alabama, but Holly Pond was his home. Richard was born November 30, 1982, in Birmingham, Alabama, to Janey Roberson Grimes and the late David Richard Roberson, Sr. Richard is survived by his two sons, Trey and Tyce Roberson, and daughter, Tagan Roberson; mother and stepfather, Janey and Wade Grimes; sister, Jana (Tyler) Childers; stepbrother, Tyler Grimes; nephews, Stetson Childers and Memphis Grimes; niece, Joplin Grimes; grandmother, Martha McGinnis; and mother of his children, Maranda Leonard. Richard is preceded in death by his father, David "Cooney" Roberson, Sr.; grandparents, Hobert McGinnis, Hobert Roberson, Eula Benefield, and Frank and Agnes Grimes. Richard was one of a kind – funny, strong, stubborn, and a heart of gold. He would give you the shirt off his back, and he never met a stranger. Richard had friends from Florida to Colorado. And over the years, Richard spent his free time drag racing, hunting, and fishing. But of all the things Richard enjoyed and loved, his three children were his pride and joy. Richard faced some battles, but without question he loved his Hotrod, Tooter, and Sis. Funeral services for Richard will be on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at Holly Pond Funeral Home. Family and friends can visit from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. The service will be at 1 p.m. with burial following at Holly Pond Cemetery where Tyler Childers, Todd Trucks, Jacob Gibbs, Brandon Brown, Ron Crumbly, and Zach Chandler will serve as pallbearers. Richard's obituary was provided by his family. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Roberson family.

DavidPatrickHollenack,Jr.,36
David Patrick Hollenack, Jr., age 36 of Hanceville, Alabama, passed away on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at his residence. He was born September 26, 1988, to David (Neci) Hollenack and Angela Kritner. He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Judy Hollenack and his grandfather, Earl Kritner. Survivors include his wife, Leah Hollenack; children, Aubree Hollenack & Grayson Hollenack; mother, Angela Kritner; father, David (Neci) Hollenack; brother, Jonathan Hollenack (Savannah), sister, Lyndsey Hollenack; grandfather, William Hollenack; grandmother, Tina Kritner; aunt, Tracy West (B.J.); cousins, Adam West (Nicole), Emily West (Preston Sorrell) & Lucas West; mother & father-in-law Margie & Mike Hillyer and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Glenda Sue (Talley) Quick, 88
Glenda Talley Quick, age 88 of Cullman passed away on Wednesday, September 24, 2025. Glenda was born on January 21, 1937, in Cullman to Elbert and Edith Whitiker Talley. She is preceded in death by her parents and her husband: Quinn Quick. Graveside services for Glenda will be held on Sunday September 28, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Ebenezer Cemetery. Visitation will be on Sunday, September 28, 2025, from noon until 1:30 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Survivors are: Daughter: Vonda (Dr. Philip) Tankersley, Sisters: Joyce (Jerry) Bradley, Dioma (Ronald) Swann, Grandchildren: Ben Tankersley and Liz Tankersley. Please share condolences and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Jamie Brad Calvert, 51
Jamie Brad Calvert, age 51, of Vinemont, Alabama, passed away on Wednesday, September 24, 2025. He is preceded in death by his parents: James Donald Calvert and Betty Faye Rollo Calvert. Jamie is survived by his wife, Tammy Renay Calvert; daughter, Savannah (Trevor) Sinyard; Sons: Micah (Charli) Calvert and Todd Nichols; brother, Stacey Calvert; 7 grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, other family members, and friends. A visitation for Jamie will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Livingston Chapel Church, with a celebration of life service to follow. Services will conclude with burial in Livingston Chapel Church Cemetery To leave condolences for the family, please visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral directing.

Wintford Leon Haynes, 87
Wintford Leon Haynes, age 87, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Thursday, September 25, 2025. Wintford was born in Alabama. Wintford most recently served as Missionary Service Corps Missionary, Campers on Mission and Disaster Relief, State of Alabama SMORT Team and Cullman Law Enforcement Chaplain Winford has also Served as Bivocational Minister of Music for 21 years and pastor for 15 years. Served with the North American Mission Board for 12 years as MSC Missionary. Organized Alabama Campers on Mission and served as president from 1972-1978. Served in volunteer Missions in 41 states plus Crew Chief for World Changers. Served in Association as Chairman of Youth Retreat Committee, Mission Committee, Mission Work Trip Committee, R.A. Director, World Mission Conference Director, Personal Committee, Associational Council, and Disaster Relief Coordinator. Served as President of Alabama Bivocational Ministers Fellowship. Now serving on the State Lay Renewal, Experiencing God Weekend Team, and Law Enforcement Chaplain with Cullman Police Department and Cullman County Sheriff Department. He had a Ministry "Laugh with Wintford" doing Christian Humorist/Musician. Retired from Liberty National Life Insurance Co. after 31 years on July 20, 1997. Wintford is survived by his wife, Martha Haynes; his daughters Miranda Lecroy(Mark), Monica Sheffield(Arter) & Melanie Krebs(Dale), his grandchildren Jesse Smith, Jason Smith,Charles Lovelady, Micah Krebs, Amy Politano, Heather Sexton, Jonathan Krebs Zackary Krebs, Markeyerra Krebs, Maniya Krebs and Nevaeh Krebs and his great grandchildren Miles, Ryan, Kaiden, Kristina, Noah, Benson, Jaxson Karson, and Jasper. Wintford was preceded in death by his granddaughters Marissa Lovelady & Caitlin Kreds. A visitation for Wintford will be held Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Moss-Service Funeral Home. A celebration of life funeral service will be held Sunday, September 28, 2025, at 2 p.m. in the Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel. A graveside committal service will Follow at Cullman City Cemetery, 9th St SW, Cullman, AL 35055. To leave condolences for the Haynes family, please visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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

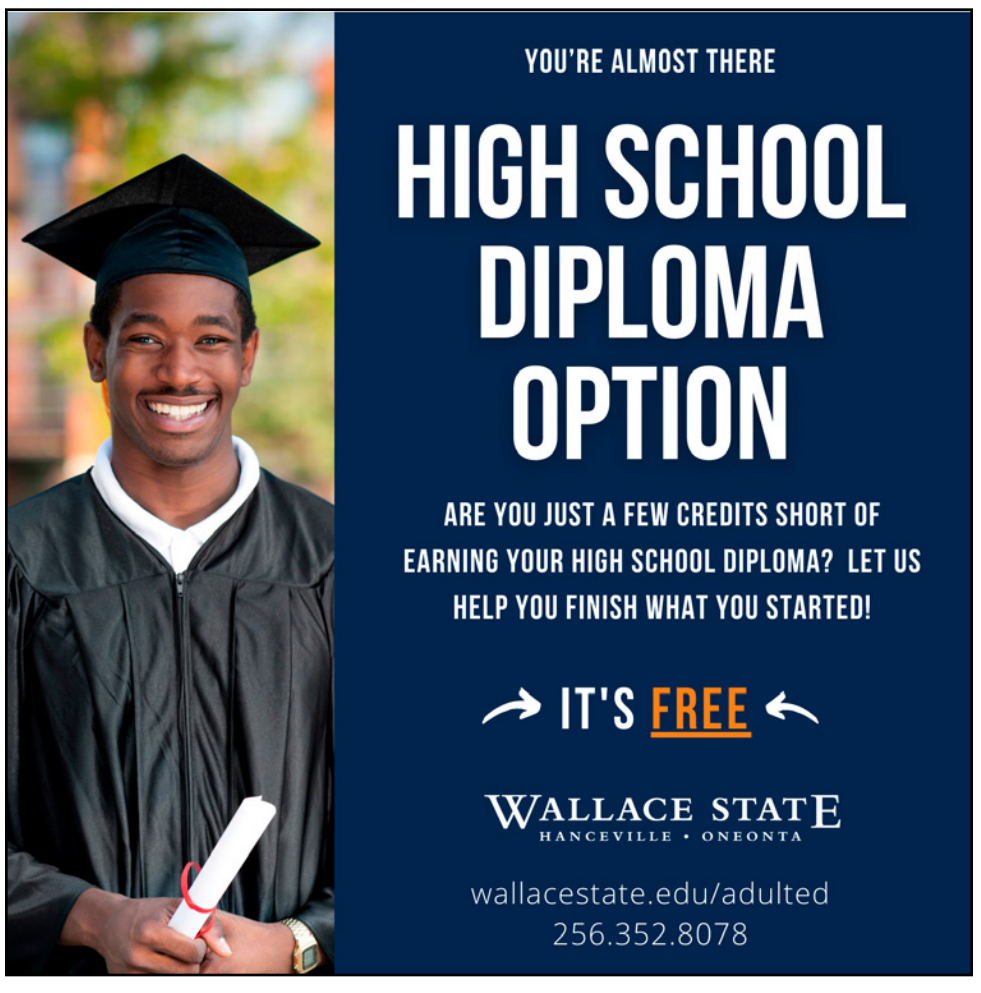
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

NOTICE: Holly Pond Cemetery Clean-up Day
The Holly Pond Homemakers will be doing their fall cemetery cleanup on Oct. 15. If there are flowers or memorials you would like to keep, please pick up before the 15th. Reminder: Only one flower or decoration should be on the ground for each grave. For questions or concerns, call 256-385-2851 or 256-708-3202.

It's Cheeseball Time Again!
Grace Episcopal Church Women are currently taking orders for their 37th annual Cheeseball Sale. Please go to www.gracecullman.org and place your order by Oct. 5, 2025. We have eight delicious flavors to choose from, and your order will be available for pick up on Thursday, Nov. 20, just in time for the holidays. Proceeds go to support local outreach projects including Committee on Church Cooperation, The Good Samaritan Health Clinic, The Pilot Light Home, Cullman Caring for Kids and Hope Horses.

The Poetry of Recovery: Recovery Support Group
Every Saturday at 10 a.m. at 514 Cleveland Ave. SW in Cullman. Facebook/The Poetry of Recovery. Contact Jeff at 727-542-6413 or John at 256-636-0612.

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

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

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.

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
• Friday, Sept. 26 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Sunday, Sept. 28 – 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.

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, Oct. 1, 10 a.m.: Finale of the little hatched chicks, come and see Judy with Snead Farm celebrate new life at story time
• Wednesday, Oct 8, 10 a.m.: Hanceville's new Fire Chief Bart Absher will teach about fire safety at story time
• Wednesday Oct 15, 10 a.m.: The art club will be painting little-miniature 5" pumpkins. Bring your real pumpkin in, and we will provide the paint to decorate the face. Contest will be judged by Hanceville City Council and the winner will be announced Oct. 29.
• Wednesday, Oct. 22, 10 a.m.: Book club
• Wednesday, Oct. 29, 10 a.m.: Join us for a Halloween party with activities. Come and take your picture with Dracula
• Saturday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Hanceville celebrates Mud Creek Arts and Crafts Festival and the library will have the annual book sale

North Alabama Agriplex Programs
• www.agriplex.org
• Tuesday, 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.
• Wednesday, 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.

Goatoberfest
Saturday, Sept. 27, from 11 a.m.-11 p.m. at Goat Island Brewing.

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.

Arley's Largest Yard Sale
Saturday, Oct. 4, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Vendor Market at Smith Lake, 6168 County Road 41 in Arley. Sponsored by Arley Women's Club. Parking lot at Dollar General.

Cullman County Band Exhibition
Saturday, Oct. 4, gates open at 5 p.m.; performances start at 6, at Cullman High School's Oliver Woodard Stadium. Nine area marching bands. Admission is $5 for adults and free for kids 6 and younger.

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.

Holiday Haus
Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism will host a Holiday Haus shopping event at the OmniPlex Friday and Saturday, Oct. 17-18, from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. The event will feature a wide variety of vendors showcasing goods and crafts inspired by every season and celebration. The cost to enter will be $5, and kids 5 and younger get in free. 1634 Field of Miracles Dr. SW, Cullman.

Small Business Christmas Market
The Small Business Christmas Market will welcome dozens of vendors and will take place at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. $3 entry and free parking available. The first 60 shoppers in line will receive a free gift. For more information, contact Shayla Waldner at 256-595-8133 or Shayladenney2018@gmail.com. Get more details at Facebook/Small Business Christmas/Easter Market.

Name (from Front)

tervention and prevention programs, with the most notable being Fluffy Finds a Safe Space, a groundbreaking initiative designed for second-grade classrooms across Cullman County.

From the website: "The Willow Path provides emergency shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, and personalized support for survivors of domestic violence in Cullman County.

"Whether you're reaching out for the first time or rebuilding after crisis, we walk with you toward safety, strength, and new beginnings."

Get more information at www.thewillowpath.org.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

Steven Pearl named Auburn Men's Basketball Head Coach

Jeff Shearer
Auburn Athletics

AUBURN, Ala. — Steven Pearl has been named Auburn men's basketball head coach, Athletics Director John Cohen announced Monday. Pearl, who has spent the previous 11 seasons on the Auburn staff, served as associate head coach the past two seasons has signed a five-year contract to become the 22nd head coach in program history.

Pearl has been instrumental in helping Auburn win five Southeastern Conference Championships over the last eight years, along with six NCAA Tournament appearances – including the Final Four in 2019 and 2025. He's also helped produce four NBA Draft first-round picks in Chuma Okeke, Isaac Okoro, Jabari Smith and Walker Kessler, and second-round pick Johni Broome.

During Pearl's time on staff, Auburn has produced and developed seven NBA Draft picks and four All-Americans – more pros than the previous two decades. The Tigers have also won more NCAA Tournament games than any SEC program over the last seven years and earned the program's first No. 1 ranking during the 2021-22 season, holding that ranking for eight consecutive weeks while being ranked in the top 25 for 32 consecutive weeks.

"I'm incredibly grateful to President Dr. Roberts, Athletics Director John Cohen, and the entire Auburn leadership team for entrusting me with this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Pearl said.

"I've spent my lifetime preparing for this moment, learning from one of the best in BP, and building a foundation rooted in character, hard work, and team-first values. We're not starting over — we're building forward, with the same principles that have made Auburn Basketball elite. I'm honored to lead this program, and I'm ready to rise to the moment."

This past season, Pearl helped Auburn to a historic season that saw the Tigers win the SEC Championship, earn the program's first No. 1 overall NCAA Tournament seed and make the program's second Final Four in the last six NCAA Tournaments. Auburn won a school-record 32 games with the most difficult schedule in the country, notching 16 wins over Quad 1 opponents, while being ranked No. 1 for a school-record eight consecutive weeks.

Since taking over defensive leadership of the team four seasons ago, Pearl has led Auburn to a Top 10 national ranking in overall defense three times, becoming one of only four teams in Division I to accomplish the feat.

Auburn's field goal percentage defense over the last four seasons is best four-year span in school history and its 3-point field goal percentage defense over the last three seasons is the best three-year span in Auburn history. The Tigers have also ranked in the top 13 in the country in effective field goal percentage defense each of the last four seasons.

His Auburn defense over the last four seasons in the Southeastern Conference ranks second in 3-point field goal percentage (.299), third in field goal percentage (.396) and fourth in scoring defense (68.1 ppg).

Beyond leading defensive strategies and in-game play calling for the last four seasons, Pearl has led opponent scouting and has played a huge role in the development of Auburn's big men during his 11-year tenure on The Plains.

"When I came to Auburn three years ago, Coach Bruce Pearl made it clear to me that he was nearing the end of his coaching days. It was obvious to me – even then – that we needed to create an internal national search to prepare for the time when Coach Pearl would be stepping down," Auburn Athletics Director John Cohen said.

"Throughout our detailed process, it became obvious to me and our staff that Steven Pearl was clearly the best fit for Auburn. His expertise in coaching defense, his skills as an evaluator, recruiter, teacher and motivator, and his relationships with our student-athletes and staff were paramount.

"As the associate head coach on what I consider to be one of the elite coaching staffs in college basketball, Steven has played a prominent role in Auburn's unprecedented success.

"The uncommon stability of Auburn's coaching staff is a huge reason why our men's basketball program has won five SEC championships and made two trips to the Final Four in the past eight seasons. Keeping that staff intact was a high priority, and very much a part of our decision-making process. We are thrilled to congratulate Steven and Brittany and are excited to watch Steven lead the program into this next chapter."

His fervent recruiting strategy has helped lead to seven Top 25 high school recruiting classes and the key signings of elite transfer portal talent to help the program reload.

Named one of the 50 most impactful high-major assistant coaches in NCAA Division I basketball by Silver Waves Media the last two years, Pearl has been instrumental in one of the biggest rebuilds in college basketball.

Since 2017, every player who has transferred to Auburn has won an SEC Championship and six have earned All-SEC honors, including two All-Americans.

Over the last four years, Pearl has taken the lead in transfer portal recruiting, landing some of the top transfers in the country in Kessler, Wendell Green Jr., Broome, Denver Jones and Miles Kelly. Kessler earned All-America, National Defensive Player of the Year, SEC Defensive Player of the Year and All-SEC First Team honors in 2022.

Broome developed into one of the best players in Auburn history, as he was named the SEC Player of the Year, National Player of the Year and a unanimous first team All-America selection last season. Green Jr. was a second team All-SEC selection while Jones was named to the SEC's All-Defensive team.

Auburn has become a hotbed for producing and developing this next-level talent, particularly from the Atlanta area, including the recruitment of current pros Okoro (No. 5 overall pick by the Cleveland Cavaliers in 2020), Kessler (No. 22 overall pick by the Memphis Grizzlies in 2022) and Sharife Cooper (No. 48 overall pick by the Atlanta Hawks in 2021).



AUBURN ATHLETICS

Auburn Men's Basketball Head Coach Steven Pearl

"There is nobody more qualified or in a position to maintain our culture of faith, family and doing it the Auburn way than Steven. He's actually tougher than I am, and just as competitive! Out of loyalty to Auburn and me, Steven passed on several previous chances to pursue head coaching opportunities, choosing instead to invest in our men's basketball program and help it reach unprecedented heights," Bruce Pearl said.

"He has worked tirelessly and been instrumental in the success of our program over the last 11 years. We would not have been in the position to make two Final Fours, win five SEC Championships and win as many games as we have if it wasn't for Steven and this staff. I am so pleased that the DNA of this program won't be changing and could not be prouder for Steven, Brittany and Lainey."

As the program's academic liaison, 48 student-athletes have graduated over the last 11 years, and Auburn has posted a perfect 1000 APR in six out of the last seven years. The team's cumulative grade point average has been 3.0 or better in eight of the last 10 years and twice the program has received the NABC Team Academic Excellence Award (2021-22 and 2024-25).

Pearl served as acting head coach against North Alabama resulting in his first career coaching victory, 70-44, on Dec. 14, 2021, at Neville Arena.

"Steven Pearl's uncompromising commitment to building championship basketball teams, his ability to recruit talented student-athletes and develop them into true Auburn men who earn their degrees, make him well suited to become Auburn's next head coach," Auburn President Dr. Chris Roberts said. "We look forward to now watching Steven lead this elite program into the future and continue guiding Auburn men's basketball to the extraordinary successes he has helped our teams achieve over the past decade."

In April of 2022, he also participated in the National Association of Basketball Coaches and Athletic Director U's invitation-only Collegiate Coaching Consortium at the 2022 NCAA Men's Final Four in New Orleans. The consortium brought together rising basketball coaches and Division I athletic directors for a rigorous, multi-day academy, helping those rising coaches prepare for their first head coaching opportunity.

Pearl spent the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons as the director of basketball operations after his first year as an assistant strength and conditioning coach. As the director of operations, he was in charge of team travel while also helping plan team practices, working with the team's academics and all of the Auburn Basketball Camps.

Pearl was a four-year letterwinner for his father, Bruce Pearl, at Tennessee, playing in 101 games from 2007-11. He helped Tennessee to back-to-back SEC East Championships in 2008 and 2009, with the '08 team winning the league by two games over Kentucky and Mississippi State.

He also appeared in the NCAA Tournament each year he was a part of the program with the Volunteers advancing to the Sweet 16 in 2007 and 2008 and the Elite 8 in 2010.

Pearl, who was a three-time member of the SEC Academic Honor Roll, graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in marketing and international business in December 2010. He has also taken classes towards a graduate degree.

He and his wife, Brittany, have a daughter, Lainey, born in December 2024.

Randall (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — What began as a shy, homeschooled boy with a stutter nervously giving his first 4-H speech has led to national recognition for one of Cullman County's brightest young leaders. Seventeen-year-old Grayson Randall has been named a runner-up for the 2025 National 4-H Youth in Action Award, an honor recognizing members who use their 4-H experience to create lasting impact in their communities.

Randall's 4-H journey began with public speaking — a task that once terrified him. As a 10-year-old, after Randall delivered a speech at a 4-H event, a stranger quietly leaned over and said how interesting his topic was. That moment would be the catalyst for Randall's journey with 4-H.

That simple encouragement gave him the confidence to keep trying, and in time, 4-H became the place where he found his footing. Along the way, he overcame his stutter and grew through new opportunities, from entering projects at the fair to stepping into new leadership roles, including serving as a 4-H State Ambassador.

He also competed in Alabama's Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP), where his team placed in the top 15 in the nation.

Among his other accomplishments, Randall was also selected as a ROTH Scholar in the 4-H Leadership Academy. That experience gave him the tools to develop health and nutrition programming for youth, including his most recent project, "Fit with Friends."

The initiative provides young people with opportunities, education and resources to live healthier lives, all while emphasizing teamwork.

"Grayson is the kind of 4-H member you want a whole classroom full of," said Kerri Roberts, 4-H youth development coordinator. "He has an amazing presence with others. He always strives to assist in any way possible."

Roberts said Randall has been deeply involved in every aspect of 4-H, serving as a Cullman Youth Council Member, Youth Leader for the Outdoor Adventure Club, State Ambassador and Alabama's representative in the ROTH Scholars program.

"This new achievement is one I didn't even know was a possibility!" she added. "Grayson took the initiative to network with National 4-H staff and find out about and apply for the Youth in Action award. I am so incredibly proud of all his achievements in 4-H and in his academics."

Randall's recognition as a national runner-up highlights the growing impact Cullman County 4-H youth are making within the Cullman community and beyond. For those interested in learning more about similar opportunities or Cullman County 4-H in general, contact the Cullman County Extension Office at 256-737-9386 or visit www.aces.edu.



Editorial: Courage in action

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

Fear may sound the alarm, but it is courage that carries us forward. Time and again, history reminds us that progress is never written by those who let fear decide their next step.

It is written by those who feel the weight of fear, acknowledge it and choose to move anyway.

In Cullman, we have seen this firsthand. When tornadoes carved through our county, fear was everywhere — fear of loss, fear of what came next.

Yet neighbors did not allow it to rule. They showed up with chainsaws, casseroles and open hands.

They cleared roads, patched roofs and fed one another. Courage showed up in work boots and gloves.

When industries have closed their doors and jobs disappeared, fear whispered that the future was uncertain. But community leaders, business owners and working families pushed back.

New opportunities were forged, and Cullman's economy grew stronger, not weaker. Courage turned setbacks into foundations for growth.

Courage in action does not always roar. Sometimes it is quiet — seen in the steady hands of a nurse on an overnight shift, in the calm reassurance of a parent soothing a child, in the resolve of a student who chooses to defend a classmate rather than look away.

Courage does not need attention. It simply does what fear cannot.

Our community faces challenges ahead. Weather will test us. Economic pressures will strain us. Division will try to distract us. All of these are real. But none are greater than the capacity for courage that lives in our people.

The question is never whether fear will appear — it always does. The question is how we will respond when it does.

The answer is not complicated. Courage must lead. Because when courage leads, families thrive.

Neighborhoods strengthen. Cities grow.

When courage takes its place at the table, fear is reduced to what it was always meant to be: a warning light, not the steering wheel.

Cullman has never been defined by fear. Our story is one of resilience, grit and forward motion. That is the legacy worth continuing.

Fear will knock at the door, but courage must always be the one to answer.

Incident (from Front)

"Our administrators always try to gather as much evidence as possible and this may include personal witnesses, camera footage and any other information that is available," he said. "While this incident was more of an assault than ongoing bullying, but with ongoing bullying, administration try to determine when and how this got started so that hopefully they can get to the core of the issue."

He added that punishments are meant to be consistent with past cases, and more serious offenses may lead to due process hearings outside the local school level.

When asked about non-physical bullying, Barnette noted the challenges posed by harassment, intimidation and online activity.

"More often than not, much of the bullying that occurs in our schools is not physical. This is actually more of a challenge and harder to address especially when it occurs online or just verbally," he said.

"Many students, as well as adults, believe that once they delete this information from their personal phones that it goes away, but it doesn't. There is always a trail that can be retrieved."

Barnette confirmed that all reports, regardless of type, are investigated.

"All reports of bullying are investigated regardless the form that they are in," he said, adding that teachers handle minor incidents daily, with administrators and law enforcement stepping in when needed.

The superintendent also addressed the policy on recording and uploading videos of fights.

"While we have a general policy about the proper use of technology, the issue in this situation would be more about promoting the incident and infringing on the rights of other students, which would fall under the Jamari Williams Student Bullying Prevention Act," he said.

Posting such content, he explained, risks prolonging bullying for both the victim and the aggressor.

On the question of banning phones on buses, Barnette said the district currently allows them during bus rides, though restrictions may change if problems continue.

"We currently have cameras on all of our buses so the argument over the need for students to video events for evidence isn't applicable," he said.

Support for victims, he noted, comes through counselors, social workers and prevention lessons, though online exposure is difficult to undo once content spreads.

"We routinely do preventative lessons about all types of bullying, but many times once content such as this is all over the web it is hard to stop it," Barnette said.

He also criticized adults for their role in sharing the video.

"While the video that was shared so many times was videoed by a student, most of the shares and posts came from adults," Barnette said.

"Many people shared and posted it just for the thrill of having someone like or click on their post. That is a sad trend in our society right now.

"I like to think we are better than that. My message to adults is, let's stop spreading content online that isn't positive."

Barnette said the district also focuses on prevention through digital citizenship programs and monitoring student accounts. But in this case, he said, "The online activity is coming from adults for the most part."

He added that both the victim and the aggressor deserve protection, as both are minors.

To parents who feel their child's bullying cases were not addressed, Barnette said discipline is never shared publicly, even with other parents.

"Many times parents think nothing happened because the school administrators will not share what discipline or actions were taken with any child besides that child's parents or guardians," he said.

"Every time someone breaks in line of another student or does something they shouldn't have, it isn't always considered bullying. True bullying, which is continued activities targeted at a student, result in increased discipline fairly."

Barnette also responded to concerns about families removing children from buses or the district altogether.

"We have not had a large number of students removed from our buses or our school system over safety concerns. I feel like our school system does an excellent job taking steps to keep our students safe," he said. "I feel like our schools are some of the safest places around."

On the question of a stronger social media policy, Barnette said he believes accountability is essential.

"Posting images of anyone being humiliated is wrong, but anyone that posts images of children in this light should be held accountable," he said. "Young people make mistakes and poor decisions. ... I believe anytime someone posts a video or message pertaining to a minor online without their parents' permission, there should be consequences."

Barnette closed with a message for parents and the wider community: "I believe it all starts at home. We all have to begin at a very young age raising our children to respect other people and to treat them the way we want to be treated.

"We will continue to teach good behaviors and have bullying prevention lessons, but if someone is repeatedly being aggressive (toward) your child, please let the administration know so that they can investigate and help put an end to it."



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Oden (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Jeremy H. Oden recently announced his re-election campaign for Alabama Public Service Commission Place 1.

Below is Oden's announcement:
Alabama Public Service Commissioner (Place 1) Jeremy H. Oden (R-Vinemont/Eva) has announced that he will seek re-election in the 2026 Alabama state elections subject to the Republican primary on May 19, 2026.

"It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve the Great State of Alabama on the Public Service Commission," said Oden. "In my time as a Commissioner, Alabama's PSC has been recognized as the one of most conservative public utility regulatory commission in America. I am very proud of that, and I will work diligently every day to ensure our conservative PSC maintains that distinction. I will be a candidate for re-election as Public Service Commissioner, Place 1 because I truly believe that I am the best qualified candidate for this job."

Commissioner Oden is a nationally recognized expert in public utility regulation. He has been selected for several positions of national leadership in energy policy. He has served as the president of the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (SEARUC), a board member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), chairman of the Subcommittee on Clean Coal and Carbon Management NARUC, chair of the Department of Energy (DOE) fossil fuel partnership NARUC, Trump appointee to the National Coal Council and member of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition. He is a national spokesman all over the country as an expert in utility regulation and utility policy.

A lifelong Republican, Commissioner Oden served as a state co-chair for the Trump presidential campaign in 2020. Commissioner Oden has served Alabama as a Public Service Commissioner Place 1, being elected statewide multiple times. He has served as an Alabama state representative from his home district in Cullman, Blount and Morgan counties, being elected in 1998-2012. He has been recognized by multiple associations, advocacy groups and fellow legislators as a powerful public leader, garnering numerous awards for "Legislator of the Year," excellence in leadership and other recognitions.

Oden is married to Samantha and they have a daughter, Anika, a god daughter Taylor and god-granddaughter. Oden and his family reside in the Vinemont/Eva area in Cullman County, where his family has lived for generations as farmers and small business owners.

Alabama Public Service commissioners will be on the ballot in 2026. The Primary will take place May 19, and the General Election will be Nov. 3.







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.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a public hearing before the Cullman County Commission, Cullman County Commission Office, Cullman County Courthouse, Cullman, Alabama, October 21, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. to receive comment on closing a portion of County Road 406, more particularly described as the following:

COMMENCE AT A CAPPED REBAR BEING THE SW CORNER OF THE NE QUARTER OF THE SW QUARTER OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 10S, RANGE 4W AND RUN N 00.34'00" E FOR 1182.81 FEET TO A CAPPED REBAR, THENCE N 89.53'29" E FOR 396.14 FEET TO A CAPPED REBAR, THENCE N 00.27'27" E FOR 330.46 FEET TO A CAPPED REBAR, THENCE N 89.44'04" E FOR 945.15 FEET TO A CAPPED REBAR, THENCE S 00.24'31" W FOR 55.92 FEET TO A NAIL IN ASPHALT AND POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE S 20.37'05" W 279.42 ALONG THE CENTER OF AN EXISTING 40 FEET WIDE ROW, LENGTHENING AND SHORTENING EAST AND WEST BOUNDARIES OF ROW AS NECESSARY.

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 *
ONZELLE H. DUREN * PC2025-313
Deceased. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY
AND PROBATE OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF
ONZELLE H. DUREN (SELF-PROVING WILL)

TO: ZACHARY HAYS ABBOT, TYLER HAYS ABBOTT, WYATT HAYS ABBOTT, JASON HAYS ABBOTT AND ANY KNOWN OR UNKNOWN NEXT OF KIN OR INTERESTED PARTIES.

Please take notice that a *Petition for Letters Testamentary and Probate of the Last Will and Testament of Onzelle H. Duren (Self-Proving Will)* has been filed the 22nd day of August, 2025, made Court record the 25th day of August, 2025, by Ronald James Akers, Petitioner, by and through Attorney Seth B. Thompson. A hearing on said *Petition for Letters Testamentary and Probate of the Last Will and Testament of Onzelle H. Duren (Self-Proving Will)* has been scheduled for the **2nd day of December, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama.

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

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

Done this the 24th day of September, 2025.

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

Petitioner's Attorney:
Seth B. Thompson
201 Second Avenue Southeast
Cullman, Alabama 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF:)
)
VIRGINIA FAYE HULSLANDER,) CASE NO. PC-2025- PC 2025
)
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY of said deceased having been granted to **MARTY KEITH WADDLE** on the 24th 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/Marty Keith Waddle
Marty Keith Waddle, Personal Representative of the Estate of Virginia Faye Hulslander

Seth B. Thompson, Attorney for Petitioner
Marty Keith Waddle

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

Pursuant to Alabama Code 32-13-1,Earl's Body Shop, Inc.

will offer For sale at Public Auction the following vehicles on:

Oct, 30, 2025 at 7:00 A.M.:

2017 Kia Sorento 5XYPG4A34HG238899

2016 Chev Sonic 1GIJC5SH9G4145982

2009 Toyota Corolla JTDB14OE49J0O9536

1997 Honda CRV JHLRD1841VCOO9775

2006 Kia Optima KNAGE124765059464

2014 Nissan Altima 1N4AL3APOEC173196

2009 Toyota Corolla JTDBL4OE79J007845

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, CASE NO.: AD 2025-027
FOR THE ADOPTION OF

L.A.D. A MINOR.
D.O.B. 12-17-2015

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 Dauksha, 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

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

FILED
JUL 21 2025
CYNTHIA LEE
Circuit Clerk, Howell County

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
)
CAROLYN CURTS MCCRAVY,) CASE NO.: PC-2025-249
)
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration Cum Testamento Annexo having been granted to Brandi McCravy as Personal Representative of the Estate of CAROLYN CURTS MCCRAVY, deceased, on the 25th day of September, 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.

Brandi McCravy
Personal Representative of the Estate of
Carolyn Curts Mccravy, deceased

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
Lisa McSwain, Circuit Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
There will be a public hearing before the Cullman County Commission, Cullman County
Commission Office, Cullman County Courthouse, Cullman, Alabama, October 21, 2025, at
4:00 p.m. to receive comment on closing a portion of Tall Tree Lane, more particularly
described as the following:
Beginning at the Northeast corner of Lot 10 of Charley Lowery Smith Lake Subdivision, as recorded in Map Book 3, Page 114, in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, being on the West right-of-way of Tall Tree Lane; thence South 45 degrees 39 minutes 29 seconds East 223.98 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar; thence North 89 degrees 30 minutes West 150.10 feet to the end of said Tall Tree Lane; thence Northerly along the East right-of-way of Tall Tree Lane to the Southeast corner of Lot 11 of Charley Lowery Smith Lake Subdivision; thence Northerly along the East right-of-way of Tall Tree Lane to the Northwest corner of Lot 12 of Charley Lowery Smith Lake Subdivision; thence Southwest 50 feet, more or less to the point of beginning.
Which abutting property owners wish to vacate and abandon.

Cullman County Commission
Jeff Clemons, Chairman

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PEN AIR CREDIT UNION,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) Civil Action No. CV-2025-900249
SHANE W. VINYARD,)
Defendant.)

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

To: Shane W. Vinyard, Defendant named above

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking a judgment against the Defendant, Shane W. Vinyard, was filed against you in said court on July 8, 2025, and that by reason of an order for service of summons by publication entered by the court on September 10, 2025 you are hereby commanded and required to file with the clerk of said court and serve upon Joshua D. Friedman, Esquire, whose address is Post Office Box 2767, Mobile, Alabama 36652, an answer to the complaint within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, to-wit:

by the 11th day of September 2025.

Lisa McSwain, Clerk of Court
Signature of Clerk

Publish once each week for 4 successive weeks in the Cullman Tribune:

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain, CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
500 2nd Ave. SW, Room 303
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 775-4654

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Help! I've fallen and I can't get up!

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



We've all seen the commercials that gave birth to the catchphrase, "Help! I've fallen and I can't get up!" Since the 1980s, it has been on television, shirts, hats, songs and just about everywhere imaginable. If people were like Weebles, when we fall getting back up would not be a problem. Weebles are egg-shaped toys that became popular back in the 1970s. Their bottom is larger than their top and it is weighted. This causes them to stand upright. Even if they get knocked over, they immediately pop right back upright.

Everyone, at some time or another, has been knocked down or fallen. A fall may not necessarily be a problem, but when we fall and can't or don't get back up, that is a serious problem. A fall does not mean the same thing for all people. A fall for a 2-year old does not mean the same thing that it might to a 102-year-old person.

A fall for an elderly person may indeed be deadly. That's one reason why someone my age plays pickleball rather than football. While watching a football game, someone quipped, "If I got knocked down like that, I wouldn't be able to get out of bed the next day."

Honestly, I probably wouldn't be able to get back up on the field! That's why a 35-year-old football player is considered old.

When we were learning to walk, falling was about as much a part of the process as walking itself. At first, someone had to help us back up, but eventually we learned to get up by ourselves.

I remember falling as a child and jumping back up almost as quickly as I had fallen. A tumble on a bicycle usually meant not only jumping back up as rapidly as possible, but also looking around to see who saw that. If someone did see it, our pride may have said, "I'm okay, that didn't hurt," even when it did. Sometimes we were bearing false witness against our own selves!

Bear in mind, there is more than one way to take a fall. Of course, we may fall physically, but we may also fall emotionally, spiritually or in some other way.

The question that comes to my mind is not as much will we fall, but what will we do when we do fall? I usually try not to preach in my column, but let me answer with four encouragements: 1). Don't Give Up. Don't think that this is the end and there is no hope. Don't throw in the towel, so to speak. Always remember that a fall is not always the end...it can be a new beginning or another opportunity. When we fail, it does not mean we are a failure. 2). Do Get Up. Sometimes it's hard to get back up after we've fallen. Sometimes it's even painful. Sometimes we do need help. We may have to call 911. We may need to call for Lassie. We may need medical, spiritual or emotional attention. Don't give up, but determine to get up! 3). Do Get Over It. Whatever healing may be needed, allow yourself to heal. Don't lie there wallowing in your hurt and pain. If you need to forgive someone for knocking you down, forgive them... whether they ask or not. 4). Do Move On. There is more life to be lived, so please live it. Don't sit down unless you have absolutely no other option. Find something positive to do and do it. We may be down, but please get up, get over it and get on!

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

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Sept. 27, 1951

From the files of Sept. 27, 1951

Fairview News

Mrs. Edith Hancock of Columbus, Ga. spent last weekend visiting relatives here and at Vinemont.

J. B. Mauldin of Cullman visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Mauldin, Sunday.

Clifford Screws of Fairview and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Screws and Mike of Hartselle visited their sister, Mrs. Cornelius Kreps, Sr., and her twin boys, Jerry Lee and Terry Lee in the hospital at Columbus, Ga., last weekend. They came back via Carrollton, Ga., and visited an uncle, Less Adams, who is eighty-eight years old.

Mrs. Vernie Pattillo of Birmingham and son, Robert (Bob), who has served a year at Lackland A. F. B. in Texas, has his discharge until further notice and has accepted his former position as radio announcer at Hattisburg, Miss., beginning September 28, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Philpot on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymon Philpot of Columbus, Ga., recently visited Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Mauldin.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Scruggs were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Campbell and children last Sunday.

Mrs. Talmadge Maddox and children of Sylacauga visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Grimes, several days last week.

Back-a-Bit
(From The Tribune Files of 1901 and 1931)

50 YEARS AGO

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Boss Shaw on the 14th a fine boy.

The young people of Clarkson spent a pleasant time at the home of C. C. Cochran Sunday afternoon.

Up-to-date hair cutting and shaving done at C. G. Connally's tonsorial parlor—ready.

W. T. Vickery conducted a singing at W. S. Yearwoods at Ruby Saturday night.

Bob McAfee plans to go to Mexico this fall.

Oscar Schminert is ill.

John McDowell and son, Pinkney, made a business trip to Winston County last week, with a view of purchasing land.

Miss Georgia and Dolphus Sapp are attending Blountsville College.

Good board can be obtained from $7 to $10 per month in private families for Polytechnic students.

Henry Jonas and J. A. Ponder have returned from Birmingham.

Prof. T. R. Guthery closed a successful term of his school at Trimble Wednesday.

Mrs. Nancy McFarland has returned to Birmingham after a few days visit with her sister, Mrs. M. J. Heningar.

S. H. Green, J. M. Lovett and S. J. Griffin were the entertainment committee for the banquet of the Friendship Lodge No. 33 K. of P. when the members' wives and sweethearts will be guests.

Miss Hattie Hays left Wednesday to enter school in Nashville.

The scarlet fever epidemic has almost died out.

Rev. Tillman Powell of Bremen was in town Monday.

20 YEARS AGO

Presidents of the various Cullman High School organizations recently elected are Melvin Hyatt, Boy's Council; Jessie Keller, Girls Council; L. O. McKoy, senior class; Norman Bender, junior class; Jack Spiegle, sophomore class; George Stiefelmeyer, freshman class; Oscar McMinn, boys "C" club; Eloise Hyatt, girls "C" club; Walter Guthrie, Hi-Y; Jessie Keller, French club; Herbert Wagner, Jeffersonian Society; Junius Whaley, Wilsonian Society; Walter Buettner, Websterian Society; Elizabeth Robinson, Girl's Reserve.

Miss Viva Chance and Cecil Dodson were married on Friday with Rev. E. J. Martin officiating.

Miss Ercena Barker and Ernest Galin were married at St. John's Evangelical Church on Saturday evening with Rev. W. H. Aufeder officiating.

P. G. Hartung, Jr., entertained thirty of his friends at a rook party on Friday evening.

Geo. Stiefelmeyer, Sr. is spending a few days in Canada.

Miss Cyril Edwards has returned from Atlanta after a six weeks visit with relatives there.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Deppe have moved into their new home on First Street.

Leroy Bledsoe and Sidney Morrow leave for Atlanta's Southern Dental College this week.

Supt. R. E. Moore and Supt. R. J. Johnson attended a school meeting in Montgomery this week.

Kathryn Herrell and Myrtle Wise presented the program for the Junior Study Club when it met with Elizabeth Robinson Saturday afternoon.

A mad dog was killed at D. H. Hathcock's store at Good Hope Monday by Claude Reid and Wallace Hathcock.



POET'S CORNER

Battle for Souls | By: April McCay

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

There is a war
That rages within each soul,
If you don't settle your mind
You will lose control.

Jesus can bring comfort
He is near and a friend,
He died for you
He cares about your
struggles within.

Every day we are marching
Each to their own beat,
Towards our final destination
Where life and death will meet.

Slow and swift is its arrival
Raging for one's soul
Suit up quickly
The hour no one will know.

Prepare your armor
And guard your heart,
Be alert and pray
For soon the battle will start.

Secure your belt
Ready your feet,
Sword and shield in hand
Standing firm, never retreat.

The battle is real
Forces of evil drawing near,
Soldier fully armored
God is within,
recognizing Holy fear.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

SEPT. 27

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G	G	U	N	W	A	L	E	B	T	M	L	B	R	T
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A	N	O	H	S	T	A	C	K	E	K	P	P	B	D
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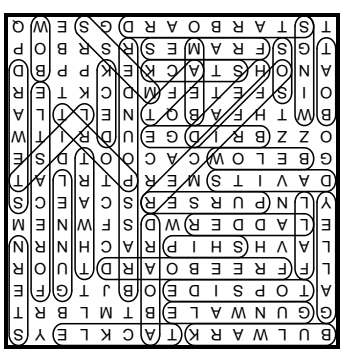
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Bulwark
Davits
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Officer
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

SEPT. 27

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ANSWERS:



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

THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

Budget (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Commission has adopted a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2026, focused on infrastructure, public safety and fiscal discipline.

Approved Sept. 23, the budget projects $58.2 million in revenues and $57.3 million in expenditures for governmental funds, along with $28.4 million in revenues and $30.1 million in expenditures for proprietary funds such as sanitation, parks and water.

"This budget reflects our values as a community — good stewardship, investment in infrastructure, public safety and a commitment to transparency," said Commission Chairman Jeff Clemons. "We're building for the future while staying grounded in the needs of our citizens today."

Public safety
Public safety received the largest single allocation in FY 2026, with $19.3 million directed to the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, jail, rural volunteer fire departments and emergency management.

This represents 33.6% of the total county budget ($57.3M). From the General Fund ($30.7M), it accounts for a much larger share — 62.7%.

Infrastructure and roads
The County is investing $14.1 million into roads and infrastructure, including $4.4 million for paving materials and $1.56 million from the Rebuild Alabama fund. Facility improvements add $765,000, and public building projects total $3.25 million.

Roads and infrastructure represent 24.7% of the total budget. They are primarily funded outside the General Fund, meaning they do not appear as a large percentage of the $30.7M General Fund breakdown.

Community services
Community programs — including the Commission on Aging, CARTS transportation, juvenile probation and economic development — received a combined $4.6 million. This includes $1.28 million for Aging, $2.54 million for CARTS, $318,519 for juvenile probation and $373,342 for economic development.

These allocations make up 8% of the total budget. Within the General Fund, community services account for 13%.

General government and other operations
The remainder of the budget covers administrative and operational needs, totaling about $10.4 million, which is 18.2% of the total budget. However, within the General Fund, general government and operations account for 24.4%.

County employees
The FY 2026 budget provides a 5.14% overall pay scale increase for county employees, combining a 2% cost-of-living adjustment with a 3.14% step raise. Rising insurance costs led the County to join the Local Government Health Insurance Plan through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama, ending its self-insured plan.

Revenue sources and reserves
The largest single revenue source is sales tax at $15.1 million, followed by property tax at $9.86 million. Other funding comes from state and federal allocations and program revenues.

The County also maintains a strong reserve position. While the Government Finance Officers Association recommends at least two months of reserves — about $5.98 million for Cullman County — the FY 2026 budget projects an unrestricted reserve balance of $10.8 million.

Stewardship and stability
Clemons said the budget balances immediate needs with long-term goals. "We're building for the future while staying grounded in the needs of our citizens today," he said.

"This budget underscores Cullman County's dedication to roads and infrastructure improvements, recruiting and retaining the best employees, maintaining facilities and fleet to the highest standard and operating with business principles to be good stewards of public funds," he added.





